

A Quip for an Vpstart

Courtier :

O R,

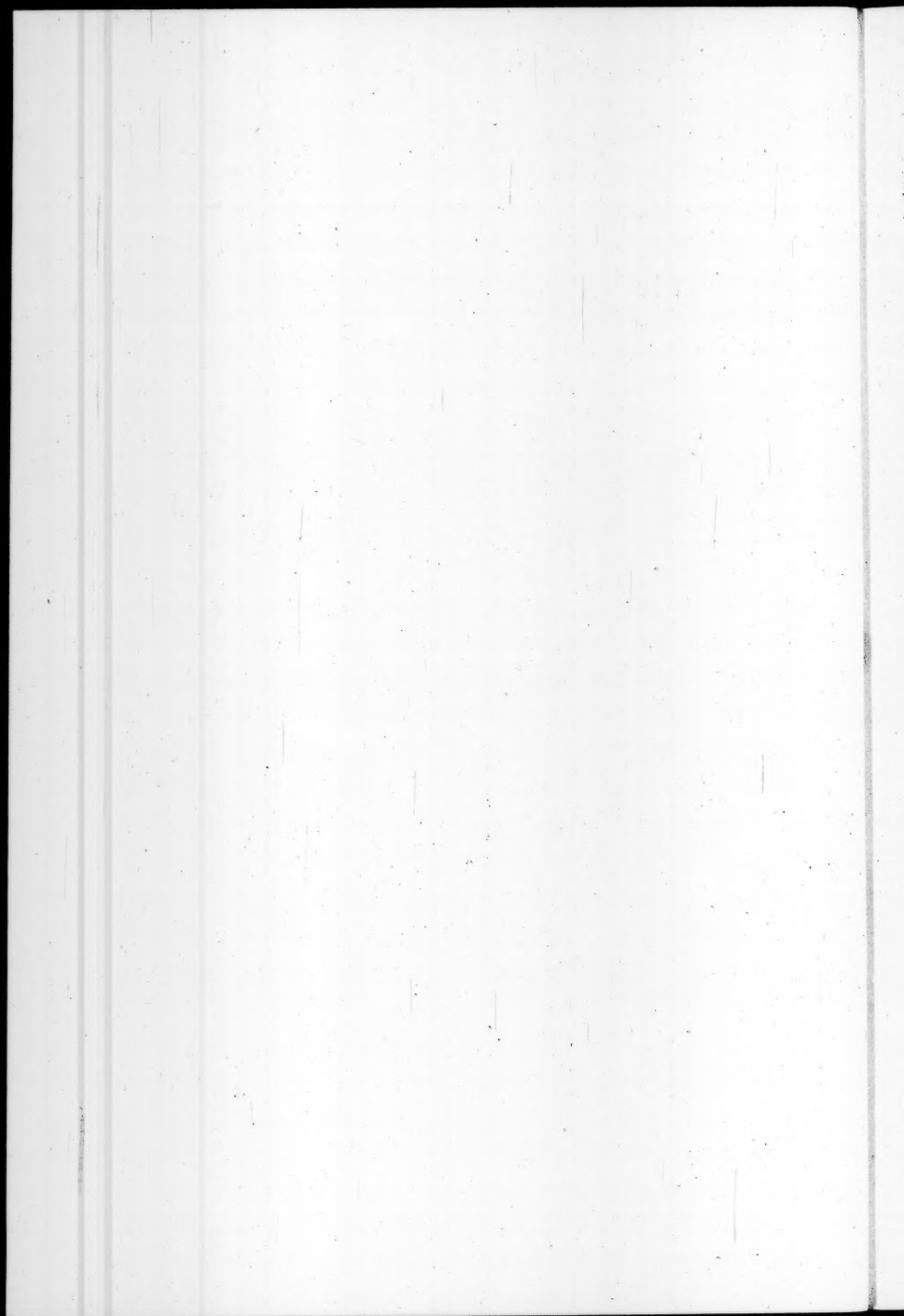
*A quaint dispute betweene Veluet-breeches
and Cloth-breeches.*

Wherein is plainly set downe the disorders in all
Estates and Trades,



L O N D O N

Printed by E. A. for Edward White, and are to be sold at his shop
neere the little North doore of S. Pauls Church at
the Signe of the Gnn. 1 6 9 6.



To the right Worshippful Thomas Barnabie Esquire,
Robert Greene wisheth hearts ease, and
heauens blisse,



Ir, after I had ended this Quippe for an upstart Courtier, containing a quaint dispute betweene Cloth-breeches and Veluet-breeches, wherein under a dreame I shadowed the abuses that pride had bred in England, how it had infected the Court with aspiring Enuie, the Citie with griping Couetousnesse, and the countrie with Contempt and Disdain: how since men placed their delight in proud lookes, & braue attire, Hospitalitie was left of, neighbour-hood was exiled, Conscience was skoft at, and Charity lay frozen in the streetes: how upstart Gentlemen for the maintenance of that their fathers neuer lookt after, raised rēts, rackt their tenants, had imposed great fines, I stooode in a maze vnto whom I should dedicate my labors, knowing I should be bitten by many sithence I had toucht many and therfore need some worthy Patrone, vnder whose wings I might shroud my selfe from good-man find-fault. At last I cōld to mind your Worship, and thought you the fittest of al my friends, both for the duty that I owe, and the worsh. qualities you are indued withall, as also for that all Northamptonshire reports, how you are a father of the poore, a supporter of auncient Hospitalitie, an enemye to pride: and to be short, a maintainer of Cloth-breeches (I meane of the old and worthie customs of the Gentilitie and Teomanrie of England) Induced by these reasons, I humbly present this Pamphlet to your Worship, onely crauing you will accept it as conrteously as I present it dutiffully and then I haue the end of my desire: and so resting in hope of your fauourable acceptance I humbly take my leaue.

Your dutifull adopted sonne,

Robert Greene.

To the Gentlemen readers
health



Entle Gentlemen, I hope Clothbreeches shall find your gentle censors of this homely Apologie of his ancient prerogatiues, sith though he speakes against Veluet breches which you weare, yet he rwits not the weed, but the vice, not the apparell when it is worthily worne, but the vnworthie person that weares it, who sprang of a peasant, will vse any sinister meanes to climbe to prefeiment, being then so proud as the fop forgets like the Assc that a Mule was his father. For auncient gentilitie and yeomanrie, Clothbreeches attempteth this quarell, & hopes of their fauour: for vpstarts he is half carelesse, and the more because he knowes whatsoeuer some thinke priuately, they will be no publike carpers, least by kicking where they are toucht, they bewray their gald backs to the world, and by starting vp to find fault, proue themselues vpstarts and fools. So then poore Clothbreeches sets downe his rest on the courtisie of gentle Gentlemen, and bold yeomen, that they will suffer him to take no wrong. But suppose the worst, that he should be frownd at, and that such occupations as hee hath vpon conscience discarded from the Iurie, should commence an action of vnkindnes against him, heele proue it not to hold plea, because all the debate was but a dreame. And so hoping all men wil merrily take it, he stands solemnly leaning vpon his pike staffe, till he heare what you conceiue of him for being so peremptorie. If well, he sweares to cracke his hose at the knees to quite your courtisie: if hardly, he hath vowed that whatsoeuer he dreames, neuer to blab it againe, and so hee wisheth mee humble to bid you farewell.

A Quip for an Vpstart Courtier.



I was lost at that time when the Cuckoos Quir-
 rister began to bewray Appill, Gentlemen, with
 his neuer changed notes, that I damped with a
 melancholly humour, went into the fieldes to cheere
 up my wits with the fresh aire: where solitarie
 seeking to solace my selfe, I fell into a dyme, and
 in that drowsie slumber I wandred into a vale all Lapisres with
 sweet and choise flowers, there grew many simples, whose vertues
 taught me to bee subtil, and to thinke nature by her weedes warned
 men to be wearie, and by their secret properties to checke wanton
 and sensuall imperfections. Amongst the rest, there was the fellowe
 Passabill, a flower fit for zealous Dottrels, who through the beautie
 of their honest wiues grow suspicious, & so proue themselves in the
 end cuckold heretikes. There budded out the checkerd (Pannike) of
 party coloured hearts ease, an herbe seldome seene either of such men
 as are wedded to shewes, or of such women as haue haste husbands,
 yet there it grew, & as I slept to gather it, it slipt from me like Tan-
 talus fruite that failes their maister. At last, wondering at this secret
 qualitie, I learned that none can weare it be they Kings, but such as
 desire no more then they are bozne to, nor haue their wishes aboue
 their fortunes. Upon a banke bordering by, grew womens weedes,
 Fennell I meane for flatterers, fit generally for that sexe sith while
 they are maidens they wish wantonly: while they are wiues they
 will wilfully: while they are widowes they would willingly: and
 yet all these proud desires are but close dissemblinges. A care aboy-
 ning sprouted out of the courtiers comfort, Time, an herb that many
 stumble on, and yet overslip, whose ranke satie & thicke leaues haue
 this peculier property, to make a snattle if the tast of the sap as swift
 as a swallow, yet ioyned with this preiudice, that if she climbe too ha-
 stily, she falls too suddenly. He thought I saw bluers young courtiers
 tread upon it with high disoain but as they past away, an Adder lur-
 king there, bit them by the heeles that they wept: and then I might
 perceiue certaine clownes in clouted shoone gather it, and eate of it
 with greedinesse: which no sooner was sonke into their mawes, but
 they were metamorphosed, and lookt as proudly (though peasants)
 as if they had bene borne to be Princes companions.

Amongst the rest of these changeings whome the taste of time had

thus altered, there was some that lifted their heads so high, as if they
had bene bzed to looke no lower than stars, they thought Noli altū
sapere was rather the saying of a foole than the censure of a philo-
sopher: and therfore stretcht theselues on their tiptoes, as if they had
bene a kinted to the Lo. Tiptost, and began to disoatne their equals,
scorne their inferiours, and even their betters, forgetting now that
time had taught them to say Passe, both before they had played the
Clarks part to say Amen to the priest. Each, then they were not so
little as Gentlemen, and their owne conceit was the Harrauld to
blason their descent from an olde house, whose great grand-fathers
would haue bene glad of a new cottage to hide their heads in. Yet as
the Peacock was apt in the pride of his beautilous feathers, is knowne
to be but a dunghill bird by his foule feet: so though the high lookers
and costly lutes argue to the eye of the world they were Cavaliers
of great worship, yet the churlish libralitie of their mindes bewaied
their fathers were not above thre pounds in the kinges bookes at a
subsiotie, but as these vpstart changelings went strouting like Phi-
lopolimarchides the bzaggart in Plautus, they lookt so proudly at
the same, that they stumbled on a bed of Rue, that grew at the bottome
of the banke where the time was planted: which fall upon the dew
of so bitter an herb, taught them that inch proud peacoches as over
hastily out run their fortunes, at last too speedily fall to repentance,
and yet some of them smild & said, Rue was called herb-grace, which
though they scozned in their youth, they might weare in their age, &
it was neuer to late to say Misereere. As thus I stood musing at this
time bozne bzood, they banisht away like Cadmus ropemates, that
sprang vp of bipers teeth, so that casting my eye aside after them, I
saw where a crue of all estates were gathering flowers, what kinde
they were of I knewe not, but precious I got them, in that they
pluckt them with greedines, so that I bzew towards them to be per-
taker of their profits, coming nearer, I might see the weed they so
wangled for, was a little dapper flower like a ground hounsfuckle,
called thysit praysed generally of all, but praised for dissimulation, but
offset amongst the crue y seemed couetous of this herb there was
a troop of old graibers in velvet, sattin, and wadded iackets, that
stooped as nimble to plucke it up by the roots, as if their toynes had
bene supled in the oyle of misers skins: they spared no laber nor pains
to get and gather it, & what they got they gaue to certain fong boyes
and

an vnittart Courtier.

and girls that stood behinde them, with their skirts and laps open to receiue it: among whome, some scatteredit as fast as their fathers gathered it, wasting and spoiling it at their pleasure, which their fathers got with labour.

I thought them to be some Herballists or some Apothecaries that had impleied such pains to extract some rare quintessence out of this flower, but one standing by told me they were Cozmozants and Tisicurers, that gathered it to fill their cosers with, & whereto (q. 3) is it precious: what is the vertue of it: mary quoth he, to qualifie the heat of insatiable mindes, that like the Serpent Dipsas neuer drinketh ynough till they are so full they burst, wby then said I, the Deuill burst them all: and with that I fell into a great laughter, to see certaine Italianit Conties, humorous Canalliers, youtiful Gentlemen and Inamorati gagliardi, that scornefully pluckt off it, and woze it a while as if they were wearie of it, & at last left it as too base a flower to put it in their noses. Others that termed Homini digradisti-ma by their looks and their walkes, gathered earnestly, and did pocket it vp, as if they meant to keep it carefully, but as they were carrying it away, there met them a troope of nice wantons, faire women, that like to Lamir had faces like Angels, eyes like stars, breasts like the golden front in the Hespierdes, but from the middle downwards their shapen like serpents. These with wyzen like allurements entised these quaint squires, that they bestowed all their flowers vpon them for fauours, they themselves walking home by beggars bush for a pennance. Amongst this crue were Lawyers, and they gathered the Deuill and all, but poore Poets were thrust backe and could not be suffered to haue one handfull to put amongst their withered garlands of Baper, to make them glorious: but Hob and John of y countie they kept in churlishly in their high byllarts, and gathered whole sackfuls: insomuch they wore besoms of thistle in their hats, like forebodes, or the lustie Gallants in a pozrice dance: seeing the crue thus to wangle for so patricie a weed, I went alone to take one of all the other fragrant flowers that diapred this balley, thereby I saw the Watchers buttons, whose vertue is to make wanton maidens weep when they haue woyn it forty weekes vnder their apozn for a fauour.

Next them grew the dissembling daisie, to warne such light loue of wenches not to trust euerie faire promise that such amorous batche-
lers

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let's make them, but sweet smells breed bitter repentance. Hard by
 grew the true louers primrose, whose kind fauour wisheth men to be
 faithfull, and women chaste. Along in a border grew maiden-
 haire, fit for modest maidens to behold, and immodest to blush at, be-
 cause it prayeth the one for her naturall tresses, and condemneth
 the other for their beauly and counterfeite periwigs: there was the
 gentle Gillyflower that wiuers should weare if they were too fra-
 ward: and loyall Lavender, but that was full of Turcke-spittes, to
 shew that womens light thoughts make their husbands heavy heads:
 there were sweete Lillies Gods plentie, which shewed faire virgins
 need not weep for wounds, a floze of balme which could cure strange
 wounds, only not that wound which women receiue when they lose
 their maidenheads, for no herb hath vertue enough to scrape out that
 blot, and therefore it is the greater blemish. Infinite were the flowers
 beside that beautified the valley, that to know their names and opera-
 tions, I need some curious hearball, but I passe them ouer as need-
 lesse, with the vision of their vertues was but a dreame, and therefore
 I wish no man to hold any discourse herein authentick, yet thus
 much I must say for a parting blow, that at the lower end of the Dale
 I saw a great many of women bring high words to their husbands,
 some striding for the breeches, other to haue the last word, some fret-
 ting, they could not finde a knot in a rushe, others striding whether
 it were well or haire the goat barr: questioning with one that I met
 why these women were so cholericke, he like a scoffing fellow poin-
 ted to a bush of nettles. I not willing to be satisfied with signes, asked
 him what he meant thereby: Harry (quoth he) all these women that
 you heare brawling, frowning and scolding thus, haue severally pickt
 on this bush of nettles, and the vertue of them is to force a woman
 that waters them to be as peeuish for a whole day, and as waspish as
 if she had been stung in the brow with a hornet. Well I smile at this,
 and left the companie to seeke further, when in the twinkling of an
 eye I was left alone, the valley cleared of all company, & I a direc-
 ted man, desirous to wander out of that solitarie place to seeke good
 comforts and bonn companions to passe away the day withal. As thus
 I walked forward seeking vp the hill, I was diuinen halfe into a mase
 with the imagination of a strange wonder, which fell out thus. We
 thought I saw an vncooth beaulese thing come pacing downe the
 hill, stepping so piously with such a geometrical grace, as if some ar-

an ypsart Courtier.

the full bzagart had resolved to measure the world with his paces: I could not describe it to bee a man, although it had motion. for that it wanted a bodie, yet seeing legges and hose, I supposed it to be some monster nourisht vp in those deserttes: at last as it bzawe moze nigh vnto me, I might perceiue that it was a berle passing cosly paire of Weluet breeches, whose panes being made of the cheefest Heapalitanane stuffe, was bzawne out with the best Spanishe satten and maruellous curiously ouer-whipt wth gold twill, interseamed with knots of pearle: the nether stocke was of the purest Granada silke, no colt was spared to set out these cosly breeches, who had girt vnto them a Rapier and Dagger gilt, point pendant, as quaintly as if some curious Florentine had trickt them vp, to square it vp and downe the strates before his Mistress. As those breeches were exceeding sumptuous to the eye, so were they passing pompous in their gestures, for they strutted vp and downe in the balley, as proudly as though they had there appointed to ad some desperate combate.

Blame me not if I were diuⁿ into a muse with this most monstrous sight, to see in that place such a strange headlesse Courtier ietting vp and downe like the Tilber of a fence-schoole about to play his Iuise, when I seeme neuer in any age such a wonderfull obiect foztuned vnto any man before. Well, the greater tempte this noueltie bzawe me into, the more desire I had to see what cuent would follow: wherevpon looking about to see if that any moze company would come, I might perceiue from the top of the other hill another paire of breeches moze soberly marching, and with a softer pace, as if they were not too hastie, and yet would keepe promise neuerthelesse at the place appointed. As soon as they were come into the balley, I saw they were a plaine paire of Cloth-breeches, without either welt or gird, straight to the thigh, of white kerseie, without a flap, the nether stocke of the same sewed too aboue the knee, and onely seamed with a little Conentry blew such as in Diebus illis our great grandfathers moze, when neig^hbo^rhood and hospitalitie had banished pride out of England, nor were these plaine breeches weaponlesse, for they had a good soler but with a pike in the end, able to lay on load enough, if the heart were answerable to the weapon and vpon his masse pitcht downe vpon the ground. Cloth-breeches stood solemnly leaning as if they meant not to start, but to answer to the vnterance whatsoeuer in that place might be objected. Looking vnto these two, I might perceiue

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celue by the pride of the one, and homely resolution of the other, that this their meeting would grow to some dangerous conflict, and therefore to prevent the fatall issue of such a pretended quarrell, I kept between them both, when Melnet breeches graced Clothbreeches with this salutation. Proud and insolent peasant, how darrest thou without leave of low reuerence presse into the place whither I am come so to dispose my selfe? Art thou not afraid thy high presumption should summon me to displeasure, and so force me draw my rapier, which is neuer vnsheathed, but it turnes into the scaberd with a triumph of mine enemies blood? bold bagard auant, heard me not to my face, so; this time I pardon thy follie, and grant thy legges leave to carry away thy life. Clothbreeches nothing amazed at this byavado, bending his staffe, as if he meant (if he were wronged) to bestow his benison, with a scornfull kind of smiling made this smooth reple: Mary giv godman bystart, who made your father a Gentleman's soft fire makes sweet mault, the curliest Colw hath the shortest hoynes, and a bawling curre of all bites the least: alas good sir, are you so fine that no man may be your fellow? I pray you what difference is between you and me, but in the cost and the making? though you bee neuer so richly daubed with Gold, and powdered with Pearle, yet you are but a case for the buttockes, and a cover for the basest part of a mans bodie, no more then I: the greatest preheminance is in the garnishing, and thereof you be proud, but come to the true vse wee are appointed to, my honour is more then thine: for I belong to the olde ancient yemanrie, yea, and gentillie, the fathers: and thou to a company of proud and vmannerly bystarts, the sons. At this Melnet breeches stoomb and said, Why thou beggers byat, descending from the reuerfion of base povertie, is thy insolence so great to make comparison with me, whose difference is as great as the brightnesse of the Sun and the slender light of a candle? I (poore snake) am sprung from the ancient Romans, borne in Italy the mistress of the world so; chivalrie, cald into England from my native home (where I was famous) to honor your courtiers and pong gentlemen here in England with my countenance, where I am holden in high regarde, I can presse into the presence when thou poze soul shalt with cap and knee beg leave of the poxter to enter: and I sit and dine with the nobility, when thou art faine to waite for the reuerfion of the almes basket: I am admitted boldly to tell my tale, whē thou art faine to sue by means

of supplication, and that and thou to, so little regarded, & most commonly it neuer comes to y^e princes hand, but dies imprisoned in some obscure pocket: With the there is such difference between our estates, cease to bryde my patience with thy insolent presumption. Clothbryches as breefe as he was proud, swooze by the pike of his staffe, that his chop logicks was not worth a pin, and that he would turne his owne weapon into his bosome thus: why signio? Gloriosco (qd. he) though I haue not such glossing phrases to trick out my speeches with all as you, yet I will come ouer your fallowes with this bald & he-theoricks: I pray you Pounder Palapart are you therefore my superior, because you are taken by with Gentlemen, and I with the yeomanry: both true vertue consist in riches, or humanity in wealth? Is ancient hono^r tied to out ward bzaury? or is not rather true nobilitie, a minde excellently qualified with rare vertues: I will teach thee a lesson worth the hearing, proud pynocks; how gentilitie first spring vp, I will not forget the old wines logicke. When Adam delud and Eue span, who was then a Gentleman: but I tell thee after the generall flood, there was no more men vpon the earth but Noe and his thyes Sonnes, and that Cham had wickedly discovered his fathers secrets, then grew the deuision of estates thus, The church was figured in Sem, Gentilitie in Iapheth, and labour and vudgerie in Cham: Sem being chaste and holy, Iapheth learned and valiant: Cham churlish and seruile, yet did not the curse extend so farre vpon Cham, nor the blessing vpon Iapheth, but if the one altered his nature, & became either indued with learning or valor, he might bee a Gentleman: or if the other degenerated from his ancient vertues, he might be held a Peasant, wherupon Noe suffered, y^e gentilitie grew not onely by propagation of nature, but by imperfection of qualities. When is your worship wile, that boast of your worth for your golde & pearle, sith Cucullus non facit Monachū, nor a velvet stop make a souden gentleman: and wher eas thou saist thou wert borne in Italy, & called hether by our Courtiers, him may we curse that brought thee first into England, for thou camest not alone, but accompanied with a multitude of abominable vices, hanging to thy humpall nothing but infectious abuses, as baine glorie, selfe-loue, sodomie, and strange popsonings, wherewith thou hast infected this glorious Glād ye insolent bzagart, thou hast defiled thine owne nest, & fatal was the day of thy birth, for since y^e time of thy hatching in Italy, as then

famous for chivalrie and learning, the Imperiall State through thy pride hath decayed, and thou hast like the young Bellicane pickt at thy mothers breast with thy presumption, causing them to loose that their soze-fathers with true honour conquered, so hast thou been the ruine of the Romane Empire, and now fatally art thou come into England to attempt heere the like subuersion. Whereas thou dost boast that I am little regarded where thou art highly accounted of, and hast sufferance to passe into the presence, when I am for my simplicitie shut out of doore, I graunt thy allegation in part, but not in whole, for men of high wisdom and honour measure not men by the outward shew of bzauety, but by the inward wozth and honesty, and although I am disdaind of a few over-weening fooles, I am valued as wel as thy selfe with the wise. In that thou saist thou canst speake when I sue by supplication, I graunt it, but the tale I tell is to the ruine of the poe, for coming into high fauour with an impudent face, what saime is there expited, whose lease thou dost not beg? What sozeit of penall statutes: what concealed landes can ozner-slip thee? Psea rather than thy bzauerie should faile, beg possession: the verie smoake that comes out of poore mens chimnies: shamest thou not to plantish by start to heare me discourse thy imperfections: get thee home againe into thine owne Countrie, & let me as I was wont liue famous in my native home in englad, where I was borne and bred, yea, and bearded. As far thy country man til he compass the conquest by treason. The right and title in this country bese bzat (qd. Meluet bzeches) now authorizty fauours me, I am admitted viceroy, & I will make thee doe me homage & confesse that I holdest thy being & residence in my land, from the gracious fauour of my sufferance, and with that he laide hold on the hilt of his Rapier, and Cloath-bzeches betok him to his staffe, whē I stepping betwixt the parted them thus. Why what meane you, will you decide your controuersie with blowes, when you may debate it by reason? this is a land of peace, gouerned by true iusticiaries & honorable magistrates, where you shall haue equity without partialitie, and therfore listen to me, & discusse the matter by law: your quarrell is, whether of you are most ancient and moste wozthy: you sir boast of your countrie & parentage, he of his native birth in England: you claime al, he would haue but his owne: both plead an absolute title of residence in this country, then must the course betwixen you bee trespasses or disseison

off franke tenement: you Welcote breeches in that you claime the first title, you shall be plaintiffe, and pleade a trespass of disseison done you by cloth-breeches, so that it be brought to a Jury, and tried by a verdict of twelve or foure and twentieth. Thus, thus (quoth Welcote-breeches) I neither like to be plaintiffe, nor yet allowe of a Jury, for they may be partiall, and so condemne me in mine owne action, for the countrie swains cannot v.alue of my worth, nor can mine honours come within the compasse of their base wits: because I am a stranger in this lād, & but here lately arrived, they wil holde me as an upstart & so lightly esteeme of my worthinesse: and so; my aduersarie is their countryman and lesse chargeable, he shall haue the law mitigated, if a Jury of Hinds or Deasants shold be impanelled: If ancient gentlemen, peomen, or plaine ministers shold be of the quest, I were sure to loose the day, because they loath me, in that I haue perswaded so many Land-lords for the maintenance of my bawery, to raise their rents. You seeke a knot in a rush (qd. I) you neede not doubt of that, for whom you distrust & think not indifferent, him you vpon a cause manifested challenge from your Jury. If your lawe allowe such large fairs (qd. Welcote-breeches) I am content my title to bee tryed by a Jury, and therefore let mine aduersary plead me Nul tort, Nul disseison. Cloth-breeches was content with this, & so they both agreed I shold be iudge and iury in this controuersie, whereupon I wisht them to say for themselves what they could, that I might discourse to the iury what reasons they alleadged of their titles: then Welcote-breeches began thus; I cannot but greene that I shold be thus outfaced with a Carters weerde, onely fit for husbandrie, seeing y I am y original of al honorable endeouers: to what end doth yowth bestow their wits on law, phisicke, or Theologie, were it not the end they aime at, is the wearing of me and winning of preferment? Honour nourisheth Art, and so; the regard of dignitie doe learned men strins to errede in facultie.

Impiget extremos currit Mercator ad Indos per mare, per faxa, &c.

What bylues the Merchants to seeke forren martts, to venter their goods and hazard their liues? not, if still the end of their trauel were a paye of cloth-breeches: no velvet, costly attire, curious & quaint apparrel is the spur that prickes them forward to attempt such danger. Doth not the souldiers fight to be bzane? the Lawyer study to

countenance himselfe with cost, & Artificer takes paines only for my sake, that wearing me, he may brag it amongst the best: what credit carries he now aduaies that goes pind vp in a clothbzeesch? who will keepe him companie that thinks well of himselfe, vntlesse he vse the simple stane to make cleane his spoons? The world is changed, and men are growne to moze wit, and their mindes to aspire after moze honozable thought: they were dices in diebus illis, they had not the true vse of gentilitie, & therefore they lined meanly & dyed obscurely: but now mens capacities are refined, time hath set a newe edge on Gentlemens humoys, & they shew them as they should bee, not like Cluttons, as their fathers did in chynes of beese & almes to the poore, but in Heluets, Watins, cloath of gold, pearle, yea pearle lace, which scarce Caligula wore on his birth-day, and to this honozable humoys haue I brought these Gentlemon since I came from Italie: what is the end of seruice to a man, but to countenance himselfe, and credits his spasser with bzane saits: the scurvy Tapsters & Wilters, fox populi, sil pots, & rub boyle beeles, to prauke themselves with my gloze: alas were it not to weare me, why should so many apply theselues to extrazdinarie idleness? Beside, I make fooles bee reuerent and thought wise amongst the common sort: I am a seuerer sensor to such as offend the Law, prouided there be a penaltie annexed that may bying in some profit, yea, by me the chiefeest part of the Realme is go-
 verned & therefore I refer my title to the verdit of any man of iudgement. To this mildely Cloathbzeesch answered thus:

As I haue had alwaies y honest humoys in me to measure all estates by their vertues, not by their apparell, so did I neuer grudge at the bzanerie of any, to home birth, time, place or dignitie, made woorthy of such costly oznamets, but if by y fauor of their prince & their owne deserts they merited them, I held both lawfull and commendable to answer their degrees, in apparel correspondent vnto their dignities. I am not so pzeise directly to inueigh against the vse of Helvet, eyther in Bzeeches or other suites, nor will I haue men goe like Iohn Baptist, in coates of camels haire. Let Princes haue their Wademens, & Caesar what is due to Caesar: let noble me go as their birth requires & Gentlemon as they are borne or bear office: I speak in mine owne defence, for the ancient gentility & yeomanry of England, & inuysgh against none, but such malapart bystarts, as raised from the plough or aduaced for their Italia deuises, or for their wittles wealth, conet
 in

in byuerie to match, may to excee the greatt noblenē in this lād.

But leauing this digression, mounther Melnet-bjereches, againe to the particulars of your sond allegation, Whereas you affirme your selfe to be both originall and finall end of learning, alas proud pyncor you pearch a bowe too high: did all the Philosophers beate their bjaines and busie their wits to weare Melnet-bjereches? Why both at y time thou wert vnknown, yea vnbozne, & al excesse in apparrell had in high contēpt, & now in these daies al men of woꝝth are taught by reading, that excesse is a great sin that pride is the first step to the downfall of shame. They study with Tullie, that they may seeme bozne foꝝ their Countries, as well as foꝝ themselves. The Diuine to preach the Gospel: the Lawyer to refoꝝme wꝝongs, and maintaine Justice: the Whisttian to discouer the secrets of Gods wonders, by woꝝking strange cures: to be bjerefe, the end of all being, is to know God, & not as your woꝝthip good (Paffer Melnet-bjereches) wꝝells, to creepe into acquaintance.

I will not deny, there be as fantastickall fooles as your selfe, that perhaps are puffed vp with such pꝛesuming thoughts, & ambitious ye ayme to tricke theselues in your woꝝships masking suites: but while such climbe foꝝ great honours, they often fal to great shames. It may be therupon you bꝝing in Honos alit Artes, but I gesse your maiſterſhip neuer tryed what true honourt meant, that truſte it by with in the compas of a payre of Melnet-bjereches, and place it in the arrogancy of heart: no, no, say honour is idolatrie, foꝝ they make fooles of themselves, and Idols of their carcases, but he that valueth honoꝝ so, shall reade a Lecture out of Apuleius golden Ass, to learne him moꝝe wit. But now sit by your leane, a blow with your next argument, which is, y Merchants hazard their goods and lues to bee acquainted with your maiſterſhip. Indeed you are atwoꝝy, foꝝ wisemen frequent parts foꝝ pꝛofit, not foꝝ pride, vnles it be some y by wearing of Melnet-bjereches, and apparel too high foꝝ their calling, haue pꝛoued bankꝛout in their youth, and haue beene glad in their age to desire my acquaintance, and to truſte by their tailed in home spun russet. Whereas thou dost obiect the valoꝝ of hardy Soldiꝛs to grow foꝝ the desire of bjane apparrell, tis false, and I knowe if any wꝛas pꝛesent, they would pꝛoue vpon thy bones that thou wert a lyer: foꝝ their countꝛies good, their Pꝛinces seruice, the defence of their friends the hope of fauour, is the final end of their resolutions: reſeeming not
onlye

only them but the worldes gloze, sickle, transitory, & inconstant. Shall
I fetch from thine own country weapons to wound the self withall?
what saist thou to Cincinnatus, was he not called to be Dictator: for
the plough, and after many victories, what did he let vp and downe
the court in costly garments and velvet breeches? He despised dig-
nity, contemned vaine gloze and pride, and returned againe to his
quiet contented life in the country. How much did Caius Fabritius
value their Numa Pompilius, Sceuola, Scipio, Epaminondas, Ari-
stides: they held themselves too meane to counte pride vanitie,
and yet thou art not ashamed to say, Thou art the end of soldiers
woorthie hono: I tell thee saucie skipiacke, it was a good and a blessed
time here in England, whē R. Stephen wore a pair of cloth-breeches
of a poble a pair. and thought them passing costly: then did he count
Westminster hall too little to be his dining chamber, and his almes
was not bare bones in need of broken meat, but luscious chyns of beefe
fell into the poore mans basket. When charity flourished in the court,
and young courtiers strove to exceede one another in vertue, not in
bawery: they rode not with fans to ward their faces from the wind,
but with a Burgants to resist the stroke of a Batle-axe: they could the
better exhort a soldier to arme, then court a lady with amozets: they
caused the Trumpet to sound them points of warres, not Poets to
write the wanton Elegies of loue: they sought after honozable fame,
but hunted not after fading hono: which distinction by the way take
thus. Where be some that seeke hono:, and some are sought after by
honour. Such vpstarts as fetch their pedigree from their fathers an-
cient leather apzon, & creepe into the court with great humility, rea-
die at the first Basciare li piedi dila vostralignoria, hauing gotten y
countenance of some noble man, will straight be a kindred to Cadwa-
lader, and swear his great grandmother was one of the Burgeses of
the Parliament house, will at last steale by degrees into some credite
by their double diligence, and then wind some woorthipfull place as
far as a hungry sow can smell a irreuerence, and then with all their
friends seeke day and night with coin and countenance till they haue
got it. Others there be whom hono: it selfe seekes, and such bee they
whom vertue doth frame fit for that purpose, that vying by high de-
serts, as learning, & valour, merite more then either they seeke for,
or their Prince hath any ease conveniently to bestow on them. Such
hono: seeks, & they with a blissing conscience entertain him, be they
never

an vpstart Courtier.

neuer so high in fado; yet they begge no office, as the shamelesse vpstart doth, that hath a hungry eie to spy out, an impudent face to sue, & a flattering tongue to intreat for some void place of worship, which title belonged to the, it the Prince intended to bestow offices for vertue, not fauour. Other pp. Telt et breeches there be of your true, that pinch their bellies to polliish their backs, that keepe their mawes empty to fill their purses, that haue no shew of gentilitie, but a Melnet stop, who by polling or selling of land that their fathers left, will bestow all to buy an office about the Court, that they may bee worshipped: exhorting from the poore, to raise vp their money that the base deceiuing companions haue laid out to haue an office of some countenance & credit, wherein they may haue of me better than themselves to be feared by the name of worship. The last, whom vertue pleaseth for, and neither silver, gold, friends, nor fauour aduanceth, be men of great worth, such as are thought of worship, and unwillingly entertaine her, rather vouchsafing profered honoz for their countries cause, than for any proud opinion of hoped for preferment.

Blessed are such lands whose officers are so placed, and where the Prince promoteth not for coin nor countenance, but for his worthy deserving vertue: But leaving this by talk, me thought I heard you say (signior Melnet breeches) that you were the father of mechanicall arts, and handicrafts were found out to foster your brauerie, In faith Goodman gosscap, you that are come from the start ups, and therefore is called an vpstart, quasi start vp from clouted stome your lips hung in your sight when you brought forth this Logicke: for I hope there is none so simple, but knowes that handicrafts and occupations grew for necessity, not pride: that mens inuentions wared sharpe to profit the common-wealth, not to pranke vp themselves in brauerie: I pray you when Tubalca re inuented temping of metals had he Melnet breeches to weare? In sadnesse where was your worship: when his brother found out the accords & discordes of musike hidden in hell and not yet thought on by the diuill, to cast forth as a bait to bring many proud fooles to ruine?

Indeed I cannot denie, but your worship hath brought in deceit as a Iourneyman into all companies, & made that a subtil craft which while I was holden in esteem, was but a simple mysterie: now euery trade hath his sleights, to flabber vp his weyke to the eie, and to make it good to the sale, howsoeuer it proues in the wearing.

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The

A quippe for

The shoemaker cares not if his shoes hold the dayling on, the tailor sews with hot needle and burnt thread. Each price hath banished conscience, and Velvet breeches honestie, and cuerie scullie budge must ruffle in his silkes, or else it is not sutable.

The world was not so A principio for when Velvet was woyn but in Kings caps, then conscience was not a Bome-man in Kent-Street, but a Courtier: then the farmer was content his son should hold the plough, and live as he had done before: Beggers then feared to aspire, and the higher sort scorned to enuie. Now every loit most haue his son a Courtroll, and those dunghill bjudges were so proud, that they wil presume to weare on their feet what kings haue woyn on their heads. A clowns sonne must be clapt in a velvet Pantopple, & a velvet Breech, though the presumptuous ass be drowned in the Perccers booke, & make a convey of all his lands to the Usurer for commodities: yea, the top must gee like a gallant for a while, although at the last in his age he beg. But indeed, such yong youths, when the Broker hath blest them with saint Needams crosse, fall then to priuileists and couselages: and when their credits is utterly crackt, they practise some bad shift, and so come to a shamefull end.

Lastly, whereas thou saist thou art a leuerse for to punish sins, as austere as Cato to correct vice, of truth I hold thee so in penal statutes, when thou hast begged the forsaile of the Prince: but such correction is open extortion, and oppression of the poore. nor can I compare it better to Velvet breeches, then the wolfe chaulsing the lamb for disturbing their fountaine, or the Duell casting out of Duels, through the power of Selfe-hood. And thus much curious sir, I haue said, to display the follies of mine aduersaries, and shew the right of mine owne interest. Why then (quoth I) if you haue both said, it resteth but that wee had some to empannell vpon a Jury, and then no doubt but the verdit would soone be giuen on one side. As thus, I was talking with them, I might see comming down the hill a braue dapper Dicke, quaintly attired in velvet and sattin, and a cloake of cloth rash, with a cambazke ruffe as smoothly set, and he as neatly spunged, as if he had bin a byde-grome, only I gest by his pace a far off, hee should be a Talloz, his head was holden vp so peart, and his legges Hackle-ham, as if his knees had bene laced to his thighes with points. Comming moze near indeed, I spied a Tallozs moze-pike on his breast, a spanish needle, and then I stitted my salutations,
not

an vpstart Courtier.

not to his lutes but to his trade, and encountered him by a theebare courtesie, as if he had not known him, & asked him of what occupation he was? A taylo; quoth he, mary then my friend quoth I, you are the moze welcome, for here is a great quarrell growne betwixt veluet-bzeeches and clothbzeeches, for their prerogative in Englad, the matter is growne to an issue, there must be a Jury impanelled and I would desire and intreate you to be one of the quest.

Not so quoth clothbzeeches, I challenge him: and why quoth I? what reason haue you: both hee not make them both: yes quoth hee, but his gaines is not alike: alas by me he getteth small, onely hee is paid for his workmanship, vnles by misfortune his shers slip away, and then his bailes is but a shred of home spunne cloth, whereas in making of veluet bzeeches, where there is required silk-lace, cloath of gold, of silver, & such costly stuffe, to welt, gard, whip, stich, edge, lace, and draw out, that the bailes of one veluet bzeech is moze than twenty pair of mine. I hope there is no Taylo; so precise but he can play the cook, & lick his own fingers: though he look vp to heauen, yet he can cast large shreds of such rich stuffe into hel vnder his shop boord. Besides, he sets down like the clacke of the cheeke a large bill of reckonings, which for he keepe long in his pocket, so he powders for stinking, that the young vpstart that needes it, scedes it salt in his stomack a month after. Beside sir, veluet bzeeches hath aduancd him, for whereas in my time he was cou'd but good mā taylo;, now he is growne since veluet bzeeches came in, to be called a merchant or Gentleman merchant-Taylo;, giuing arms, and the holy Lambe in his creast, where befoze hee had no other cognisance but a plaine Spanish neede, with a welch cricket on the top: sith then his gaine is so great, and his honour so advanced by veluet bzeeches, I will not trust his conscience, nor shall he come vpon my Jury.

Indeed you haue some reason quoth I, but perhaps the tallo; doth this vpon meer deuotion to punish pride, and hauing no other authoritie nor meane, thinks it best to pinch them by the purse, and make them pay well, as to aske twice so much silk lace, and other stuffe, as would suffice, and yet to over reach my young master with a bill of reckoning, that will make him scratch where it itcheth not. Herein I hold the Taylo; for a necessary member, to teach yong newices the way to weeping crosse: that when they haue waisted what their fa-

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there left them by pride, they may grow sparing and humble by inflected poverty: and by this reason the Taplo: plaies Gods part, he exalteth the poore, and polleth downe the proud. So: of a wealthie &quires Sonne hee makes a thredbare begger, and of a scornful tallo: he sets by an vpstart scurvy Gentleman. Yet seeing you haue made a reasonable challenge to him, the Taplo: shall be none of the Quett.

As I had him stand by, there was coming alongst the bally towards vs, a square set fello: well fed, and as by hiskelep apparred, in a black Cassata doublet and a spruce leather Jerkin with Chistal buttons, a cloake fast asoze with tielurt, and a Countrey cap of the finest wooll: his face somewhat Ruby blush, Cherrie cheeks like a counterfett wo:ke, & betwene the filthie runcall of his bloodshotten snout, there appeared small holes, whereat wo:mes heads peeped as if they meant by their appearance to preach, and shew the sanctiencle and antiquitie of his boose.

This fierie face churle had upon his fingers as many gold rings as would furnish a Goldsmiths shop, or besetme a pando: of long profession to wear: wondering what companion this should be, I inquired of what occupation he was: marry he quoth he a broker, why do you aske, haue you any pawnes at my house? So quoth I, nor by the helpe of God neuer will haue: but the reason is to haue you vpon a Jury. At this wo:rd, before I could enter mytiscourse vnto him, beliet breeches, stait vp, and swoze hee should be none of the quett, hee would challenge him: and why quoth I, what knowe you by him? This base choyle is one of the moathes of the common wealth, he is the spoule of pong Gentlemen a blood succour of the poore: as this Ale as a horse leach, that will neuer leave drinking while hee burd, a knaue that hath interest in the lease of foortie baudie houses, a receiver of listes, and a dishonorable supporter of Cutpurfes: to conclud, he was gotten by an Incubus, a he diuel, & brought forth by an ouerwo:me refuse, that had spent her youth vnder the ruines of Boobies Barne.

Monstrous inuention, quoth I, what reason haue you to be thus bitter against him? Wh the villaine, quoth hee, is the Devils factoz, sent fro hel to torment young Gentlemen vpon earth he hath fetcht me ouer in his time, only in pawnes, in ten thousand pounds in gold.
I suppose

an vpstart Courtier.

Suppose as Gentleman though their liberall mindes, may want that I neede money, let me come to him with a pawne worth tenne pound, he will not lend vpon it above thye pound, and he will haue a bill off sale, and twelue pence in the pound for euery month, so that it comes to sixteen pence, with the bill must monthly be renewed, and if you breake but your day set downe in the bill off sale, your pawne is lost as full bought and sold, you turned out of your goods, and bee an unconscionable gainer. Suppose the best, you keepe your day, yet paying sixteen pence a month for twentie shillings you lay as good for the lone as fourescore in the hundred: is not this monstrous exacting vpon gentlemen: beside the knave will be diligently attending & waiting at gaming houses where we be at play, and there he is ready to lend the looser money vpon rings and chains, apparel, or any other good pawne, but the poore Gentleman payes so deere for the lauerer it is laid vp in, that if it lie long at a Brokers house, he seems to buy his apparel twice. Say this too: meate is to catch hath deeper pitfalls yet to intrap you in, for he being acquainted with a young Gentleman of faire liking, in issue of good parents or assured possibility, withs him in his monstrous expences, and sairs he carries the minde of a Gentleman, promising if he want he shall not lacke for a hundred pound or two: if the Gentleman need, then hath my broker an vsurer at hand as ill as himselfe, & he byings the money, but they tie the poore soule in such Darbies bands, what with receiuing ill commodities, and forfeitures vpon the band, that they dub him Sir Iohn had it and before they leaue him, and there like Calioolues the poore nouices wealth betwixt them as a pray: hee is (Sir) to be breese, a bolvie baudy Bifer god for none but himselfe and his trug, a Carle that hath a filthy carkasse, without a conscience, a bodie of a man wherein an infernall spirit instead of a soule doth inhabite, the scum of the seauen deadly sinnes, an enemy to all good mindes, a deuourer of young Gentlemen. and to conclude, my mortall enemy, and therefore admitte of my challenge, and let him be none of the Jury. Truly (qd. clothbyreches) & I am willing he should be discarded for, for were not bad brokers (I will not condemne all) there would be lesse filching, and fewer thieues, for they receiue all is brought them, and buy that for a Crowne that is worth twentie shillings: desire of gains blinds their conscience, and they care not how it be come by, so they buy it cheape. Besides, they exact vpon the poore, that are enforced through

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thzough extreme want to pawn their clothes, & household stuffe, their petwoe & bzaile: and if the pooze soles that labour hard, misse but a day, the base minded bzoker paises the sayest without remorse or pittie: it was not so in Diebus illis, but y pzond bpst art Helueth bzeeches haue learned al Englishmen their villany, and all to maintaine tby bzanerie: yea I haue knowne of late when a pooze woman laide a siluer thimble, y was sent her from her friends: soz a token, to pawn soz sixpce, & y bzoker made her pay a halspeny a week soz it, which comes, to two shillings a yeer, soz sixpence: sitb then his conscience is so bad, let him be shuffled out among the knaves soz a discarded card. Content qd. I, & had the Bzoker stand backe, when there were euen at my heeles thzee in a cluster, perit youtbes all, and neatly tyed. I questioned them what th y were: and the one said he was a barber, the other a surgion, & the thirde an Apoticarle. How like you of these qd. I shal they be of your Jury? Of the Jury quoth clothbzeeches, neuer a one by my consent, soz I challenge them all: your reason qd. I, & then you shal haue my verdis. Parry qd. Clothbzeeches, first to y barber, he cannot be but a partial man on helueth bzeeches side, sitb he gets moze by one tyme dzeeling of him, than by ten times dzeeling of me. I come plaine to be sold, and to haue my beard cut, and pay him thre pence. Heluethbzeeches he sits doorne in the chaire, wzap in fine clothes, as though the Barber were about to make him a footcloth: soz the vicar of saint soles then begins to take his sizers in his had & his comb, & so to snap with them, as if hee meant to giue a warning to all his mittle lice in his locks soz to prepare themselves, soz the day of their destruction was at hand: then comes he out w his suftia eloquence, & making a low conge, saith: Sir, will you haue your worsh. hair cut after the Italia maner, short and round, and then frounst with the curling irons, to make it look like a half moon in a mist: or like a spaniard, long at the eares, and curled like to the two ends of an old cast peritwig? or will you be frenchified with a loue locke do lone to your shoulders, wherein you may weare your mistress favoz: the english cut is base, and gentlemen scozne it, novelty is dainty, speaks the word sir, my sizers are redy to execut your worships wil. His head being once dzeet, which requises in combing & rubbing some two houres, hee comes to the Bason, then being curiously washt with no worse then a camphire ball, he descends as low as his beard, & asketh whether he please to be

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be shaven or no, whether he will paine his peake cut short & sharp, amiable like an innamorato or broad pendant like a spade, to be terrible like a warrior & a soldado: whether hee will haue his crates cut lowe like a sumpter bush, or his suberches take a way wth a rasor: if it be his pleasure to haue his appendices prind, or his mustachios fostered to turn about his ears like \hat{h} branches of a vine, or cut down to \hat{h} lip wth \hat{h} ytalit^h lath, to make him look lik a halfe faced banby in bzaar: These quaint tearmes, Barber, you greet maister beluet branches with all, and at euery word a snap with your sizers, & a cring with your knée, whereas when you come to more cloth-branches, you either cut his beard at your owne pleasure, or else in disoaine aske him if he wil be trimd with Christ^s cut, round like the half of a holland chese, mocking both Christ & vs: for this your knauery my will is you shal bee none of the Jury. For you maister surgion, the statutes of England exempts you from bring of any quest, and beside, alas I sildome fall into your hands as being quiet & making no bzauls to haue wounds as swartcutting beluet branches doth, neither doe I frequent whoze houses to catch the marbles, and so to grow your patient: I knowe you not, and therfore I appeale to the statute, you shal haue nothing to doe with my matter. And for you \mathcal{A} pothicarie, alas, I look not once in leaue yere into your shop, without it be to buy a penniwort^h of wormeseed to glue my child to drink, or a little triacle to dzine out the meafels, or perhaps some dregs and powders to make my sick bozse a drench with al, but for my selfe if I be ill at ease, I take kitchin Philosophie, I make my wife my Doctor, and my garden my Apoticaries shop, wheras queasie maister beluet branches cannot haue a fart alway, but he must haue his purgations, pills & glitters, or enacuate by electuaries, he must if the least spot of morpheue come on his face, haue his oyle of tartar, his Lac virginis, his camphire dissolved to betuinice, to make the soie as faire forsooth, as if hee were to play \mathcal{A} idmarian in a Maygame or \mathcal{A} oisdauce: tush he cannot digest his meat without cōserues, nor end his meale without sackats, nor (shal I speak plainely) please the trug his misters without he goe to the Apoticaries, for: Cringlon, Oleum formicarum alatarum & aqua mirabilis of ten pound a pint: if maister beluet branches wth dzinking these dregs hap to haue a stinking bzeath, then forsooth \hat{h} apoticcary must play the perfumer to make it sweet, nay what is it about him that he blameth not nature for framing, & saymeth if a newe by art,

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ort, and in all this who but mounner the Apothecary, therefore good
 sir (qd. he) seeing you haue taken vpon you to bee tryer of the chal-
 lenges, let those thre as partall companions be packing. Whby qd.
 I. seeing you haue yeldded such reason of refusal, let them stand by
 presently looking after moze, comes stalking to tyme an aged graue
 sir in a black veluet coate, and a black cloth gowne, welsted & laced,
 and after him as I suppose, foure seruisingmen, the most ill fauored
 knaues me thought that euer I saw, one of them had on a buffe lea-
 ther Jerkin, al greasie befoze with the droppings of beere that fell
 from his beard, and by his side a skel like a Bowers bung knife, &
 mudded beere was in a cloake turned ouer his nose, as though beere had
 beene a shame to shew his face. The second had a belly like a buck-
 ingtub, & a threethree black coat buttoned befoze vpon the brest,
 whereon the map of Dunkennes was drawne, with the haire and
 bowle excrements that dropt from his filthy leaking mouth. The
 thirde was a long leane old slauerling stangrel, with a brasel staffe in
 the one hand, and a whipsword in the other, so pout blind, that he had
 like to haue stumbled vpon the company befoze he saw them. The
 fourth was a fat chuffe with a sower looke, in a blacke cloak faced
 with taffata, and by his side a great side pouch like a saulconer: so
 their faces, al foure seemed to be together, they were so embarrassed
 with the flocks of strong Beere, & lined with the lees of old sacke,
 that they lookt like foure blowne bladders painted ouer with redde
 oaker, or washt over with the suds of an old stale die. All these as
 wel the maister as the following mates would haue past away, but
 that I stopt befoze them & inquired first of h^e foremost what he was?
 mary qd. he, a Lawyer: then sir qd. I, we haue a matter in contro-
 uersie that requireth counsell, & you are the moze welcome. What
 is it qd. mary said I, whether cloth-byches or veluet breeches
 are of more worth, & which of them hath the best title to be reserued
 in England? At this the lawyer smiled, and velvetbreeches stepping
 forth, took acquaintance of him, & commending his honesty, said
 there could not be a man of better indifferency of h^e sur: wh^e cloth-
 breeches stepping in, swore he marvelled he was not as wel as the
 surgon exempted by act of parliament from being of any quest, sith
 as the surgon was without pittle, so he was without conscience, and
 therupon inferd his challenge, saying h^e lawyer was neuer friend
 to clothbreeches, so; when to wilnes, neighborhod, and hospitality
 liurd

an vpstart Courtier.

liued in England, Westminster hal was a dining chamber, not a den
of controuersies, when the king himselfe was content to keep his
Georges day in a plaine paire of herse hole: when the Duke, Earle,
Lord, knight, Gentleman, and Esquire, aimed at vertue, not at pride
& wore such breeches as was spun in his house: then the lawyer was
a simple man, and in the highest degree was but a bare scriuener,
except Judges of the land, which tooke in hand serious matters, as
treasons, murders, felonies, and such capitall offences, but sildome
was there any pleas put in before that proud vpstart be'net breeches
for his maintenance inuented strange controuersies: and since he be-
gan to dominie in En'land, he hath buyd such a proud busie counten-
and in creching humors in o' euery mans head. y^e lawyers are growne
to be one of the chiefelins of the Common wealth: so; they doe now
adaies de lana caprina rixari, go to law if a hen doe but scrape in his
Duchard: but howsoeuer right be, might carries away the verdict: if
a poore man for a Gentleman, why he shootes vp to the skie, and the
arrows fall on his own head: howsoeuer the cause go, the weakest is
thrust to the wall: Lawyers are troubled with the heat of the liver,
which makes the palmes of their hands so hot, y^e they cannot be cold
unless they be rubb with the oile of Angels: but the poore man that
gines out his bare see, or perhaps pleads in forma pauperis, he hun-
geth for hares with a tabor, & gropeth in the darke to find a needle in
a bottle of hay: with these Lawyers haue such delatory & forren pleas,
such doymers, such quibbs and quaddits, that beggering their clients,
they purchase to themselves whole lordships: it booteth not men to
discourse their little conscience & great extortion, only suffice they be
not so rich as they be bad, & yet they be but too wealthy I inneigh not
against law, nor honest lawyers for there be some well qualified but
against extorting Ambassadors that wring the poore: and because I
know not whether this be such a one or no, I challenge him not to be
of my Jury. Alby then (qd. I) his worship may report: and then I
questioned what he in the baffe ierkin was? Harry (quoth he) I am a
Sericant. He had no sooner said so, but Clodius breeches leapt backe,
and drawing his rapier, swore he did not only challenge him from his
Jurie, but also protested if he said one wote toward him, hee would
make him eate a peere of his pontard And what is the reason (qd. I)
that there is such mortall hatred betwixt you & the sericant? Sir (qd.
Clodius breeches) search him, & I warrant you the knaue hath precept

D

upon

A quippe for

vpon pcept to arrest me, hath woꝛne his face smooth with onely
 clapping it vpon my shoulder, he hath had me vnder coram so often &
 the repobale is the blurt's executioner, to bring forth Gentlemen to
 Limbo as he hath ouertaken me with his base brocage & bad commo-
 dities, and as you see him a fat knaue with a foggie face, wherein a
 cup of old sack hath set a seale, to make the bolshie drunkard to die of
 the drop sicke: so his conscience is consumed, and his heart robb of all re-
 morse and pity, that for mony he wil betray his own father: for wil a
 cozmozant but see him to arrest a yong Gentleman, the rakehell will
 be so eager to catch him, as a dog to take a beare by the eares in Pa-
 rish garden, & when he hath laid hold vpon him, he vseth him as cur-
 tiously as a Butchers curie would do an ox cheek when he is hun-
 gry: if hee see the Gentleman hath money in his purse, then straight
 with a cap & knees he carries him to the tauerne, and bids him send for
 some of his friends to hale him: but first hee councaunts to haue some
 base of Angels for his pains: & besides he calls in for wine as greedily
 as if the knaues mother had been brocht against a hoghead when he
 was begotten: but suppose y Gentleman wants pence, he will either
 haue a painn, or else drag him to the counter without respect of man-
 hood or honesty. I should spend the whole day with displaying his vil-
 lancies, therfore briefly let this suffice, he was neuer made by the con-
 sent of God, but his fouenly carkeas was framed by the Diuell of all a
 rotten carleon of a wolfe, & his soul of an vsurers dam: so grownd, turned
 out of hell into his body to do monstrous wickednes againe vpon the
 earth, so that he shall be none of my Jury, neither shall he come nearer
 me than the point of my rapier will suffer him. I need (qd. cloth bree-
 ches) generally sericants be had, but there be amongst them some ho-
 nest men y will doe their duties with lawfull fauor: for to say truth, if
 sericants were not, how should men come by their debts: marry they
 are so cruell in their office, that if they arrest a poore man, they will
 not suffer him (if he hath not money) to pay a quarter of an hower to
 talke with his credits, although perhaps at the meeting they might
 take composition, but onely to the counter with him, vnles he wil lay
 his pewter, bawle, coverlets, sheets, or such household stuffe to the for
 pawn of payment of some coine for their staying, therfore let him de-
 part out of the place, for his room is better than his companie. Well
 then (qd I) what say you to these thers, & with that I questioned their
 names: the one said he was a summer, the other a gaoler, & the third
 an

an Informer: Iesus bleſſe me (qd, Clothb: ſerches) what a King was
 was here gathered together, no doubt hel ſs broke looſe, & the deuill
 means to keep bolliday, I make challenge againſt the al, as againſt
 woꝛſe men than thoſe ȳ gaue euidence againſt Chriſt. ſoꝛ the ſum-
 mer it bootes mee to ſay little againſt him than Chaucer did in his
 Canterbury tales, who ſaid he was a knave, a byber, & a baud, but
 leaſing that authoritie althougħ it be authenticall, yet thus much I
 can ſay of my ſelf, ȳ thoſe drunken bꝛawſie ſons go a ſooting abroad
 (as they theſelues ſcarm it) which is to here if any hath got his maid
 w̄ child, oꝛ plotes the good fellow with his neighbours wife, if he find
 a hole in any miſcoat ȳ ſs of wealth, then he hath his peremptorie
 ſcitation ready to ſcite him to ȳ Archerackes oꝛ officials court, there
 to appear, & abide the ſhame & penalty of the law, the man perhaps in
 good credit with his neighbours, loath to bring his name in queſtion
 greaſeth the ſumner in the ſil, & then he wipes him out of the booke,
 and ſuffers him to get twentte with Child, ſo he keep him warm in
 the hā, he hath a ſaying to w̄ ſon wines, & they are his good names,
 & as long as they ſerue him with cheſe, bacon, capons, & ſuch odd reuer-
 ſions, they are honeſt, & be they neuer ſo bad he ſweats to ȳ Officiall
 complaints are made vpon enuy, & ȳ womē of good behauior, tūſh what
 baudry is it he wil not ſuffer, ſo hee may haue money & good cheare,
 and if he like the wench well a ſnatch himſelfe, ſoꝛ they know all the
 whoꝛes in a country, and are as lecherous companions as may be: ſo
 be bꝛē, the ſumner liues vpon ſins of people, & out of harlaſtry gets hee
 all his commodities. As ſoꝛ the Gaoler, althougħ I haue bene in little
 trouble in priſon, to haue experience of his knauerie, yet haue I heard
 the poore priſoners complaine how cruell they be to them, extorting
 with extraordinary fees, ſelling a double curtall (as they call it) with
 a doubling of beer ſoꝛ two pence, which containes not aboue a pinte
 & a halfe: let a poore man be arreſted into one of Counters, though hee
 but ſet his foote in the but half an hour, he ſhal be almoſt at an angell
 charge, what with garniſh, ccoſſing, and wiping out of the Booke,
 turning the key, paying the Chamberlaine, ſeeking ſoꝛ his iurie, and
 twenty ſuch extortions inuented by themſelues and not allowed by
 any ſtatute. God bleſſe me Gaoler ſoꝛ your henhouſes, as I wil keep
 you from conuining in my queſt: and to you B. Informer, you that
 look like actuall Citizen oꝛ ſome handſome pettifogger of the law, al-

although your crimson nose be waies you can supoff a cole cup of
Sack without any chawing: yet haue you as much die knauerie in
your side pouch there, as would byrede the confusion of forty honest
men. It may be said you maruell why I exclaime against the In-
former, sith he is a most necessary member in the Common-wealth,
and is highly to the Princes advantage, for the benefite of pennall
statutes and other abuses, where he giueth speciall intelligence. To
wipe out this doubt, I speake not against the Office but the Officer,
against such as abuse law when they should vse it, and such a one I
gesse this fellow will be, by the carnation tincture of his rubie nose.
Wherefore let vs search his bagge, and see what trash you shal finde
in it. With that, although the Informer were very loath, yet we
pluckt out the stuffing of his pouch, e in it was found a hundred and
odde wits, whereat I wondered: and clothbreeches smiling, bad me
reade the Labels, and the parties names, and then examine the In-
former how many of them he knew, and wherein they had offended?
I followed his counsaile, and of all he knew but three, neither
could hee tell what they had done amisse to bee arrested and brought
in question.

Clothbreeches seeing me stand in a mase, began thus to resolue me
in my doubt. Perhaps quoth he. you maruell why the Informer hath
all these wits, and knowes neither the parties, nor can abridge
offence to them. To this I answere that being a long vacation, he
learned in the roole all those mens names, & that they were men of
indifferent wealth: now meaning hee to goe abroad and search them
out and arrest them, and though they know not wherein, or for what
cause they should be troubled, yet rather then they will come vp to
London and spend their money, they will bestowe some odde Angell
vpon master Informer, & so sit at home in quiet. But suppose some
be so Stubbozn to stand to the tryall, yet can this cunning knave de-
clare Tamquam against them, so that though they bee cleared, yet
can they haue no remembrance at all. for that he doorth in the courts
behalfe: I will not vsfold all his villainie, but he is an abuser of good
lawes, & a bay knaue & so let him be with his fellowes. I both won-
dered and laughd to heere Clothbreeches make this discourse, when I
saw two in the balley together by the eares, the one in Leather, the
other as blacke as the Deuill: I crept to them to part the fray, and
questi-

questioned what they were, and to reioyce they brailed a Harrye
 gooth hood, lookt like Lucifer, though I am blacke I am not the
 Demill, but in deede a Collier of Croydon, and one fit that haue sold
 manye a man a false sacke of coales, that both wanted measure,
 and was halfe full of dust and drosse. Further I haue bene a Liege
 in my time in London: and haue played many madde pranks, for
 which cause, you may apparently see I am made a curtall, for the
 pilloie (in the sight of a great manye good and sufficient witneses)
 hath eaten off both mine eares: and now sit this Kope-maker hun-
 teth me here with his bakens; I gesse him to be some euill spirit that
 in the likeness of a man, would since I haue paid the pilloie, per-
 swade mee to hang my selfe for mine old offences. and therefore
 sith I cannot blesse me from him with Nomine patris, I lay Spiritus
 Sanctus about his shoulders with a good crabtree cudgell, that he
 may get out of my company. The Kope-maker replied, that honestly
 fourneyng by the way, hee acquainted himselfe with the Collier,
 and for no other cause pretended himselfe with the Demill, quoth the
 Collier, how can he be honest, whose Mother I gesse was a witch: for
 I haue heard them say, that Witches say their prayers backward:
 and so dooth the Kope-maker prayne his liuing by going backward,
 and the Names these liuing is by making fatall instruments, as
 Walters and Kopes, which diuerse desperate men hang themselves
 with. *Welke*. I what say you to these: what they be one of the Jury?
Weluer breeches said nothing, but *Cloth-breeches* said: in the Kope-
 maker founde no great falschod in him, therefore hee was willing
 hee should be one, but for the Collier he thought it necessarie, that
 as he came so he should depart, so then I bad the Kope-maker stand
 by till more came, which was not long: for there came three in a
 clustring. As soone as they were nigh, I espyed one, a fatte Charle:
 with a side russet coat to his knee and his hantes all to tanned with
 distilling his Duse: yet would I not take notice what they were, but
 questioned with them of their severall occupations? Harry, quoth
 the first, I am a Tanner: the second a Shoemaker: and the third a
 Currier: then turning to the Plaintiffe and Defendant, I asked
 them if they would allow of those parties? So by my faith quoth
 clothbreeches, I make challenge vnto them all, and I wil yeld reasons
 of impossy against them: first to you maister Tanner, are you a man
 woorthy to bee of a Jury, when your conscience cates not to wrong

A quippe for

the whole common-wealth, you respect not publike commoditie, but private gaines: not to benefit your neighbour: but so; to make the proud yincocks your Son an upstart Gentleman, and because you would marrie your Daughter at the least to an Esquire, that she may if it be possible be a Gentlewoman: and how comes this to passe: by your Tan-sats so; sooth: so; whereas by the ancient lawes, and statutes of England you should let a hide lie the Duse at the least nine monthes, you can make good leather of it befoze thre monthes: you haue your Doones dung your marle, your Ashen-backe, and a thousand things more to bring on your Leather apace, that it is so haloly tanned: that when it comes to the wearing, then it flectes away like a peece of h;otune paper: and whereas your backs of all other should be the best tanned, you bring them so full of ho;ne to the market, that did you not grease the sealers of Leaden-hall th;roughly at the first, they should neuer bee sealed, but turned away and made so;reit by the statute. I cannot at large lay open your subtil practises to beguile the poore communalitie with bad leather. But let this suffice, you leaue no villanie vnso;ught, to bring the Block-head your Sonne to goe befoze the Clowne his father, trimlye trickt vp in a paire of Velueth;reches.

Now master Currier to your consnage, you cannot bee content onely to burne the leather you dresse so; fault of lignoz, because you would make the Shoemaker pay well, and you put in a little stuff, & besides, when as in backs you should on;ce put in tallow hard and good, you put in soft kitchin stuffe mixt, and so make the good and well tanned Leather by your villanie to flecte and waste away, but also you grow to be an extorting knaue: & a so;re stallor of the market so; you will buy leather, sides, backs, and Calues skins, and sel them to the poore shoemaker at an vnreasonable rate, by your false retaling, getting infinite goods by that excessive price, both vndoing the poore shoemaker, and causing vs that we pay extremely so; sh;ores: so; if the Currier bought not leather by the whole of the Tanner, the shoemaker might haue it at a more reasonable price, but the shoemaker being poore, is not perhaps able to deale with a do;ker of hides no; perhaps with a couple of backs, & the Tanner will not trust him, then y; extorting and conscning Currier comes by with this, I will lend you so; a day, and so pinching him that hee is scarce able to finde his chilozen bread. But well ha;ng the Prince and the honorable Lords

an vpstart Courtier.

Lordes of the priuie Counsell prouided by act of Parliament, that no Currier shall buy leather either hides or backs of the Tanner, so to brydle the extorting and sojefalling coufenage, but craftelier & subtilier hath the knaue Currier crosbitten the statute, in that hee deales thus with the Tanner, he makes him hold his leather vntreasonably to the Shoemaker, & so when he cannot sell it, he laies it by in the curriers house vnder a colour, whereas indeed he hath sold it him. Suppose this shal be spied and prevented: then compoundeth hee with some knaue Shoemaker: some haue take-hel without a conscience, & neither respecteth God, the common-wealth, nor his compaite, and so; sooth he is halfe with the Currier, who letteth him haue some hundred marks to lay out for leather enery month, whereas hee spends not for his Shop a hundred marks worth in a yere: so the Shoemaker bules it to abuse the statute for the Currier, and the Currier by that meanes vndoeth the other Shoemakers, thus two craftie knaues are met and they needs no broker.

Now to you Gentle craft, you *Shoemakers*: you can put in the inner sole a thin Calues skin, when as the shoe is a peates leather shoe, which you know is cleane contrary both to conscience and the statute Beside you will for a neates leather, vamping to a calues leather heele is not heere good stufie maister *Shoemaker*: Well, for your knauerie you shall haue these curses which belongs vnto your craft: you shal be light footed to trauell farre, light witted vpon euery small occasion to giue your maisters the bagge, you shal be most of you vnthyftes, and almost all perfect good fellos. Beside, I remember a merry iest, how Mercury brought you to a dangerous disease, for he requested a boone for you, which fell out to your great disadvantage, and to recreate vs heere a little Gentle craft, what sel to your trade by the wotnged God. As it hapned on a time that Iupiter and Mercury traouelling together vpon the earth. Mercurie was wonderfollly hungry and had no money in his purse to buy him any foode: and at last to his great comfort he spied where a compaign of Tailors were at dinner with buttred Pease, eating their pease with their needles points one by one. Mercury came to them and asked them his almes, they prouidly bad him set downe and doe as hee saw they did, and with that deliuered him a needle. The poore God being passing hungry, could not content his maw with eating one by one, but turned the eye of his needle and eat two or three together, which

A quippe for

the Taplozs seeing, they start vp and said, What sellest thou, a Shottell and a spade to buttred pease, hast thou no more manners? Get out of our companie, & so they sent him packing with many strokes. Mercurie coming backe, Iupiter demaunded of him what newes? and he told him how churlishly hee was vsed amongst the Taplozs: well, wandring on further, Mercurie espied where a companie of Shoemakers were at dinner with powdered beere and bzeuuelle going to them before he could aske them any almes, they said, welcome good selle w, what is thy stomacke vp? wilt thou doe as wee doe, and tast of beere? Mercurie thanked them, and sate downe, and eat his belite full, and dzanke well of good double beere: and when he had done, went home to his matter. As soone as he came, Iupiter asked him what newes? and hee said. I haue lighted amongst a cove of shoemakers, the best fellows that euer I met withall, they haue frankly sed me without grudging, and therefore grant me a boone for them. Aske what thou wilt Mercurie, quoth he, and it shall be done: why then quoth hee, grant that for this good turne they haue done me, they may euer spend a groat asofe they can earne two pence: It shall bee granted quoth he. Mercurie as soone as Iupiter had said the word, he be-thought himselfe and said: Pay, but that they may earne a groat asofe they spend two pence, for my tongue slippt at the first: wel Mercurie, quoth he, it cannot be recald, the first withmistrand: and here of by Mercuries boone it grew, that all the gentle craft are such good fellows and spend-thrifts. But howsoever, none of those three neither Shoemaker, Tanner, nor Currier, shall bee accepted to bee of the Zoric.

As they went away with fleas in their eares, being thus taunted by Clotbzyrches, we might see where there came a troupe of ancient Gentlemen, with their seruing-men attending vpon them. The foremost was a great old man, with a white beard all in russet, and a faire black cloke on his back, and attending on him he had some five men, their cognisance (as I remember) was a peacocke without a tail, the other two that accompanied him, seemed meaner then himselfe, but yet Gentlemen of good worship, where vpon I went towards them, and saluted them, and was so bold as to question what they were, and of their businesse.

The most ancient answered, he was a Knight, and those two his neighbours, the one an Elquike, the other a Gentleman, and that they

an vplint Courtier.

they haue no bygent affaires, but onely to walke abroad to take the
 fresh aire. When did I shew them both Clothy-breeches, and velvet
 breeches, and told them the controuersie, and desired their aid to bee
 vpon the Jury. They smiling, answered, they were content, and so
 did cloth-breeches seeme to reioice, that such honest ancient English
 Gentlemen should bee tryers of his tyle. But Velvet-breeches
 frowning, kept in and made challenge to them all: I demaunded the
 reason why he should refuse Gentlemen of so good calling: and hee
 made me this answer: Why you may gesse the inward minde by
 the outward apparell, and see how he is addicted by the homely robes
 he is suted in. Why this knight is mortall enemy to pride, & so to me,
 he regardeth hospitalitie, & ay meth at hono^r with relieuing & poore,
 you may see although his lands and reuenues be great, and hee able
 to maintaine himselfe in great byuery, yet he is content with home-
 spun cloth, and scozeth the pride that is vsed now adayes amongst
 young vplints: hee heldeeth not the worth of his gentrie to bee and
 consist in Velvet breeches, but valueth true fame by the report of
 the common sort, who praise him for his vertue, iustice, liberalitie,
 house-keeping and almes deeds, Vox populi, vox Dei: his tenants
 and farmers would (if it might be possible) make him immortal with
 their prayers and praises. He raiseth no rent, racketh no lands, ta-
 keth no incommbe, imposeth no mercilesse fines, enuyes not another,
 buyeth no house: his neighbours beare but respect to his country
 and the commoditie thereof as deere as his life. He regardeth more
 to haue the needie fedde, to haue his bord garnished with full plat-
 ters, then to famous himselfe with excessive furniture in apparell.
 Since then he scozeth pride, he must of force proclaim himselfe mine
 enemy, and therefore he shall be none of my Jury: such as himselfe
 I gesse the Squire and the Gentleman, & therefore I challenge them
 all three, Why (quoth I) this is strange, that a man should be bydrawn
 from a quest for his goodnesse. If men for vertue be challenged, whom
 shall we haue vpon the Jury? your objection helps not matter vel-
 uet breeches, for if he be a man of so goodly a disposition, he will nei-
 ther speake for feare or fauour, he will regard neither the riches of
 the one, nor the plain povertie of the other: u here vpon sith you haue
 made mee trier, I allow them all three to be of the Jury, and so I
 requested them to sit downe. All the Jury was full, which they cour-
 teously did, although Velvet breeches frowned at it. When I looking

A quippe for

for moze, saw where there came a troupe of men, in apparell seeming
poore honest citizens, in all they were eight. I demanded of them
what they were and whether they were going? One of the that seer-
med the welthiest, who was in a furred Jacket made answer, that
they were all friendes going to the burfall of a neighbour of theirs,
that yester night died, and if it would doe mee any pleasure to heare
their names, they weren of so daintie but that they would tel them, &
so then he began to tell mee that by his art hee was a Skinner: the se-
cond said he was a Joiner: the third was a Sadler: the fourth a Water-
ferman: the fift was a Cutler: the sixt was a Belloves mender: the
seuenth a Plasterer: and the eight a Printer. In good time (quoth I)
it is commendable when neighbors loue so well together, but if your
speede be not ouer-much, I must request you to bee of a Iurie. So I
discourst vnto them the controuersie betwene Clothbreeces and
Welutbreeces, & so what issue it might grow by a verdict: they seer-
med all content, and I turned to the plaintiffe & descendant, & asked if
they would make chalenge to any of these? I scozne (qd. Welutbreec-
ches) to make any great obiection against them, sth they be mecha-
nicall men: and I almost hold them indifferent, for this I know, they
get as much and moze by me than by him: the Skinner I vse for furs,
where as this base Clothbreeces hath scarce a golwe faced once in
his life: the Sadler for costly imbroyed sadles, the Payner for seeling
my house: the cutler for gilt rapiers: the waterman, vse continual-
ly tenne times for his once: and so likewise the plasterer: for the bel-
loves mender, alas poore snake I know him not. For the Printer, by
our Ladie I thinke I am come tenne pounds in his debt for bookes,
so that for my part let them all passe. And for me too (qd. Clothbreec-
ches) but yet a little to put them in remembrance of their follies, let
mee haue about with them all: and first with you master Skinner, to
whom I can say little but onely this, that where as you should onely
put the backes of skins into facing, you talw the wombes, and so de-
ceiue the buyer: beside, if you haue some fantaſlike skin brought you,
not worth two pence, with some strange spots, though it bee of a lib-
bet, you will swear it is a most pprecious skin, and came from Musco,
or the farthest parts of Calabria. The Sadler he stuffes his pannels
with straw or hay, and ouerglaseth them with haire, and makes the
leather of them of mozt or tanned sheep-skins. The Joiner though an
honest man, yet he makes his ioints weak, and putteth in sappe in
the

an vplart Courtier.

the moſtoſes, which ſhould be the heart of the tree, and al to make his ſtuffe ſlender. And you cutler, you are patron of ruſſions, and ſwaſh-bucklers, and will ſell them a blade that may be thruſt into a buſhel, but to a poore mā that cannot ſkill of it, you ſel him a ſwoord or rapier new ouer glaſed, and ſweare the blade came either from Turkie, or Toledo. Now maſter waterman you will ſay there is no ſubtiltie in you, ſo; there is none ſo ſimple but knowes your ſaces, and what is due betwæne Greenwich & London, and how you earne your money plaineſully with the ſweat of your browes, al this is true, but let me whiſper one thing in your eare, you will play the good fellow too much if you be wel greaſed in the ſiſt, ſo; if a young gentleman and a pretty wench come to you and ſay: Waterman my friend & I meane to go by water, and to be merry a night or two, I care not which way no; whether we go, and therfore where thou thinkeſt we may haue beſt lodging, thither carry vs, then off goes your cap and away they goe to baineſo; or ſome other place, & there you ſay: Hoſteſſe I pray you uſe the Gentleman & his wife well, they are come out of London to take the aire, & meane to be merrie here a night or two, and to ſpend their money frankly, when God wot they are neſther man no; wife, no; perhaps of any acquaintance, beſoze their match made in ſome handie ſauerne, but you know no ſuch matter, and therfore waterman I pardon you. And ſo; you Blaſtifer and bellowſmender, I paſſe you ouer, and ſo I doe the Printer, onely this I muſt needes ſay vnto him, that ſome of his trade will print leaue bookes & handie pamphlets, but auri ſacra fames quod non; and therfore I am content they ſhall be all of the Jury. I was glad there were ſo many accepted of at once, & hoped that now quickly the Jury would be ſol, looking about me, ſtraight I might ſee one alone come running as faſt as he could. I wondered what he ſhould be that he made ſuch haſt, and the Skinner told me he was an honeſt man & one of their compagne, by his occupation a bicklaier (qd. beluct breeches) a good honeſt ſimple man, he hath been long in my work in building me a ſumptuous houſe. But I challenge him (qd. clothbreeches) ſo; hee is a tugler. How qd. I can ſe, ſee he goeth very homely in lether, and hath his rule in his hand, & his trowell at his ſide, and hee ſeemeth not as one that were giuen to ſuch qualitties: yes qd. clothbreeches, hee hath this pollicie, when he maketh a ſtately place all glorious to the eye, & full of faire chambers and goodly roomes, and about the houſe perhaps ſome thyeſco; chimnies, yet hee can ſo cunningly caſt by his art.

that three of them shall not trowne in the steele: which 4 set-follers
be honest good master and vnderlings. Why (qd. 3) the fault is not in the
workman but the house-keeper, for how abais men build for to
please the eye, not to profite the poore: they doe no roast but for them-
selues & their house-hold, no more but a little court chimney in their
some chamber. How can the poore but blame then bee blamed, when
the niggardness of the Lord of the house is the cause no more chim-
nies doe smoke: for wold they vse ancient hospitalitie, as their fore-
fathers did, & value as lightly of pride, as their great grand-fathers,
then should you see euery chimney in the house smoke, and prove y
the poore Artificer hath bene his part. Why then (qd. cloth:pieces)
as you please, admit him on the quart. But what be those (qd. Cloth-
pieces) that come here so feebly? I hope they be honest men, for
they look very demure: I wil inquire said I, and with that stepping
to them, I demanded their names, and heere courteously the one said
he was a Butcher, the other a Butcher, the third a baker, & the fourth
a tittler. Hearing what they were, I was glad, getting it they were
so honest substantial men that they wold help to make up the Turp,
when Wolmetheeces with a grim and fower countenance, gaue
them this challenge. I be so it not necessary (qd. hee) that these haue
any thing to doale in my cause, altho I am at odds with them all at
least in foorthe ponne a peece: for this seauen yeares I haue bene in-
debted vnto them for bread, beefe, beare, and other viuals, then altho
they haue credited me long, and I haue had so little care to pay them,
I doubt now they will reuenge themselves and passe against me in
the vorse. May (quoth 3) the rather will they hold on your part, for
if they be honest wise men (as they seeme to be) they will see carefull
of your preferment, seeing the moze highly you are aduant, the
moze like are they to come by their owne. If therefore you can ob-
iect no other pointes of dishonesty against them, I see no reason why
they should be put by. If you doe not (quoth Cloth:pieces) then here
me, and I will pprove them vnfit to haue any dealings heere, and
first for the Butcher: I pray you good man kill calfe, what haue he
play you with puffing vp of meate, and blowing with your piches
as you sea it: haue you not your artificall knaueries to set out your
meats with piches, and then sweare hee hath more for money than
euer you bought: to sel a peece of an old cow for a chop of a yong one,
to wash your old meat & hath hung weltring in the shop to new blood

doe tricke stony an old wbe in stee of a young weatber? and although
you know it is hurtfull & forbidden by the statutes, to stea your hides,
skins, backe with cuts and slashes, to the impoverishing of the poore
shopmaker when he buies it, yet I pray you how many slaughters do
you make in a poore Caloes skin? Oh Wotcher, a long & vntuse your
punishment, for you make no conscience in deceiuing the poore: And
you Wotcher Wotcher, that grow to be worth foztie thousand pounds
by selling of sodden water, what subtiltie haue you in making your
beer to spare the malt, & put in the more of the hop to make your drinke
(be drinke neuer so cheape) not a whit the stronger, and yet neuer sell
a whit the more measure for money: you can when you haue taken
all the heart of the mault away, then clap on stoe of water (tis cheape
enough) and wash out a tunning of small beere, that it scourres a
manis maw like rennish wine: in your conscience how many barrels
do you ouer of a quarter of mault? he, he, I conceale your fault
least I should be too broad in setting downe your faults. And so you
goodman Wotcher, you that lone to be seene in the open market place
vpon the pillorie, the world cries out of your villenise, you craue but
one beere peate to make your Daughter a Gentlewoman, you
buy your Coine at the best hand, and yet wil not be content to make
your beere weight by many ounces: you put in yea & salt to make
it deauy, and yet all your pollicie cannot make it but you fine for the
pillorie: the poore cry out, the rich finde fault, and the Lord Wotcher
and the Wotchers like honorable and worshipfull Magistrates euery
day walke abroad and weigh your beere, and yet all will not serue
to make you honest men: but were extremitie used, and the Statute
put to the highest degree in practice, you woulde haue as few eares on
your heads as the Collier. Last to you Tom tapster & tap your small
cans of beere to the poore, and yet fill them halfe full of froth, that
cane your beere (if you see your glass beginne to be drunke) halfe
small and half strong: you can not be content to pinch with your small
cans and your Wotcher Wotcher, but haue your trugs to draw men on
to villanie, and to bring customers to your house. Where you sell a
loyn of meate for twelue pence, & cost you scarce six, & if any chaunce
to goe on the scoze, you scoze him when he is a sleep, & set vp a greate a
day more then he hath to finde you drinke pots with your compa
nions. So be short thou art a knaue, and I like not any of the rest, the
way lies before you, and therefore you may be gone, for you shall bee

A quippe for

none of the quest. I smiled to see Clothbreches so peremptory, when I saw five fat fellows all in damask coates & gownes belted with belnet very bzaue, & in great cōsultation, as if they were to determine of some weightie matter: bzauling neere, I saw they were wealthie Cittizens, so I went and reuerently saluted them, and told them how we needed their aids about the appeasing of a controuersie, shewing them where the Knight, Esquire, and other staid, till we might finde men to fill vp the Jury, they were contented, but belnet-breches excepted against foure of them, and said they were none of his friendes, y was the Merchant, Goldsmith, Mercer & Draper, his allegations were these, that they were all feathered of one wing to fetch in young Gentlemen by commodities, vnder the colour of lending of money: so; the Merchant he deliuered the Iron, Tin, Lead, Hops, Sugars, spices, oyles, bzaue paper, or what soeuer else, from fixe months to fixe monthes, which when the poore gentleman came to sel again he could not make threelcoze & ten in the hundred beside the vsury. The Mercer he followeth the young vpstart Gentleman that hath no government of himselfe, and he sedeth his humour to goe bzaue, he shal not want silkes, satins, belnets to pranke abroad in his pompe, but with this prouiso, y he must binde ouer his land in a statute Merchant or Staple, & so at last forseit all vnto the mercilesse Mercer, and leaue himselfe neuer a foot of ground in England, which is the reason that for a fewe remnants of Belnets & Silkes, the Mercer creepeth into whole lordships. The Goldsmith is not far behind, for most of them deale with vsurie, & let young gentlemen haue commodities of plate for ten in y hundred, but they must lose the fashion in selling it againe (which cuts them soze) beside they are most of them skild in Alcumie, and can temper mettals shrewdly, with no little profite to themselves & disaduantage to the buyer, beside pufferings and quaint conceits which I omit. And so for you Draper, hee fetcheth them off for livery cloth, & cloth for fixe months and fixe, and yet he hath moze knacks in his budget, for he hath so dark a Shop that no man can well choose a peece of cloth, if so shadowe the lie & the thred, a man shall be deceiued in the wool & the nap, they cause the clothworker so to presse the, beside he imposeth this charge to the clothworker, y he bzaue his cloth & pull it passing hard, when hee sets it vpon the tenter, that hee may haue it full breadth and length, till threed and all teare, and rend in peeces, what care they for that, haue they not a draper to serue

serue their time to dye and seame vp the holes so cunningly that it shall neuer be espied: my selfe haue seene in one broad cloath, eighteene scoze holes so; ne, racht, and puld by the clothworker, onely to please the Draper and deceiue the common wealt. To be short, the clothworker what with rouling and setting in a fine nap, with poudering it and pzeeling it, with sheering the wooll to the pzoofe of the thzed, deale so cunningly, that they pzooue themselves the Drapers minister to execute his subtilties, therefore if hee chance to come, let him be remembzed. Now so; the Wintner, he is an honest substantial man, a friend to al good fellows, and truly my friend so; my money, and wo;thy to be of the Jury. Why no; qd, clothb;atches I am of another mind, so; I hold him as deceitful as any of the rest, what y; tintner, why he is a kind of pigromancer, so; at midnight when all men are in bed, then he so;soth fals to his charmes and speis, so; y; he tumbles one hogthead into another, and can make a cup of claret y; hath lost his colour look high with a dash of red wine at his pleasure. If he hath a strong Gascoin wine, so; fear it shold make his guests so; so; drunk, he can allay it with smal rochel wine, he can cheris; by white wine w; sacke, and perhaps if you bid him wash the pot cleane when he goes to dray you a quart of wine, he will leaue a little water in y; bottom, & the dray ful of wine, and what and if he do'tis no harm, wine and water is good against the heat of y; liuer. If were infinite to rehearse the tngling of Wintners, the disorder of their houses, especially of the persons y; frequent them, and therefore with Melurtb;atches hath put by y; marchat, goldsmith, mercer & draper, y; Wintner shall go with them so; company. As they were going away in a snuff, so; being thus plainly taunted, we might see a mad merry crew come leaping ouer the field as frolicke as if they ought not all the wo;ld two pence, & drawing neater, we might perceiue y; either bottle ale or beere had made a fray with them, so; the lifting of their feet shewd the lightnes of their heads: the so;most was a plaine country sir John or Wicar, that pzoclaimed by the rednesse of his nose hee did oftner go into the ale-house thā y; pulpit, and him I asked what they were & whether they were going: what are you qd. the prie; y; stand by the high way to examine me and my s;fendes; here is none in my company but are able to answer so; themselves. I seeing they were all set on a merry pin, told the cause and how the controuersie grewe betwixt clothb;atches & belnetb;atches, and that we needed them to be of the qu;st. Parry (quoth sir John) a good motion, knew these all

are my parishioners, and we haue beene drinking with a poore man,
and spending our money with him, a neighbour of ours that hath lost
a Cow: now for our names and trades, this is a smith: the second a
weaver: the third a miller: the fourth a cooke: the fifth a carpenter:
the sixth a glouer: the seventh a peeler: the eighth a tinker: the ninth a
waterbearer: the tenth a husbandman: the eleventh a diar: the twelfth
a salloz, and I their vicar. How could you sit haue a sitter any than
me and my parishioners: you are a litle to haue (qd Cloth-byesches)
are you not some Puritan or Parson, or some fellow that raiseth by
new scismes and heresies among the people? A plague on them all
quoth I sir, for the world was neuer in quiet, deuotion, neighbour-
hood, nor hospitalitie neuer flourished in this land, since such bystrat
boies, and whittles witted soles became of the ministerie, I cannot tel, they
preach faith, faith, and say that doing of almes is papistrick, but they
haue taught so long Fides solam iustificat, that they haue preached
good works quite out of our parish: a poore man shall as soone breake
his neck as his fall at a rich mans doore: to my friend, I am indeed
none of the best schollers, yet I can read an homely euerie Sunday and
holiday, and I keepe companie with my neighbours, and goe to the
alehouse with them, and if they bee fallen out, spend my money to
make them friends: and on Sundayes sometime if good fellowship call
me away, I say both morning and evening prayer at once, and so let
them haue a whole afternoone to play in. This is my life, I spend
my living with my parishioners, I seek to do all good, and I offer no
man harme. Well (qd Clothbyesches) I warrant thou art an honest
vicar, and therefore stand by, thou shalt be one of the quest: and for you
smith, I see no great fault in you, you earne your living with the sweat
of your browes, and there can be no great honesty in you, only I would
haue you mende your life for drinking, for you are neuer at quiet, but
lesse the pot be still at your nose. But you weaver, the proverb putt
you downe so: a craftie knave, you can slych and steale almost as ill
as the tapioz: your troose and warpe is so cunningly dyuene out,
that you plague the poore conitrey twiues for their parme, and
dauke on to much drege, that you make it seeme both well wrought
and to beare weight, when it is slenderly woven, and you haue sold
a quarter of it for the poore wifes. Away, be packing, for you shall be
cast out. What spiller, shake hands with your brother the Miller
for, knowe he: You can take sole twice, and haue false hoppers to
conney

an vpstart Courtier.

conney away the poore mans meale, Be gone, I loue not your dusky
lookes: and so: company good man Cook, goe you with them, so: you
consen the poore men and countrey farmers with your filthy meat:
you wil buy of the worst & cheapest. when it is had inough for dogs,
and yet so powder it and perboile it, that you wil sel it to some honest
poore men, and that vnrasonably too. If you leaue any meat ouer
night, you make a shift to heate it againe the next day: nay, if on
the thursday at night there be any left, you make pies of it on sunday
mornings, and almost with your sowerly knauerie poison the poore
people. To be short, I brooke you not, and therefore be walking. For
the Carpenter, Glouer, and Waterbearer, the Husbandman, Wier,
& Sailo, with your trades haue but petty sleights, and you with ma-
ster Wicar, you are like to helpe to giue in the verdig: but for the ped-
ler, and the tinker, they are two notable knaues, both of one haire, &
both cousin germanes to the diuell. For the tinker, why he is a dyon-
sis, bantie dyunken companion, that walkes vp & downe with a trug
after him, and in stopping one hole he makes thre: & if in convenient
place he meets with one alone perhaps will risse him or her of al that
euer they haue. A base knaue without the fear of God, or loue to any
one, but to his whooze and himselfe. He be pedler as bad, or rather
worse, walketh the country with his dockey at the leaist, if hee haue
not two, his moyses bells, and A tem mortis, hee passeth commonly
through euery paire of stocks, either for his dyunkennesse: or his let-
chetic. And beside it is reported, you can lift or nip a boong like a
guire Couc, if you want pence: and that you cary your pack but for
a colour to shadow your other villanies: well, howsoeuer, you are both
knaues, and so be logging. Well, qd. I suppose y Jury be almost full,
I beleue we want not aboue thre: or four persons: looke you where
they come to make vp the number, and they shold be men of good dis-
position, for they seme to be all of the country. As soone as they came
to vs, I met them and told them the matter, and they were content.

The one said he was a Grafter, the other a Farmer, the other a
Shepheard to them both. What thinke you of these thre: qd. I marry
with Heluct: byerches, two of them are honest men, but the other is a
base knaue, but tis no matter, shuffle him amongst the rest. Say,
by your leave, quoth Cloth: byerches) I will shuffle out these two for
they are very Cosmo:ants of the Countrey, and deuour the poore
people with their monstrous exaction. And first I alleage agaynst
the

A quippe for

the Graier that he forreth all his pallures and meadow grounds for the feeding of his cattell, and winneth lease of them out of poyment hands, and in his buying of cattell he committeth great vnjustice, for if it prove a wet yeare, then he willeth bancke and strideth deere: if it be a drie yeare, then he buleth cheape, and yet hauing pasture, keepes them till he may come to his owne price: he knoweth as well as the Butcher by the feed of a Bulloche how much Talloyle he will prelo, what his quarters will amount vnto, what the Tanner will giue for the Hide: nay, what the soueraynes are able to make of the inward, so that he sell it so deere to the Butcher, that he can scarce liue of it: and therefore what subtiltie the Butcher doth, commeth from the Graier, so that I exempt him from the quest as a bad member, and an ill friend to Clothworkers. And for you mast. Farmer, you know how though your conueus land-lords raise their rents, for if a poore man haue but a plough-land, if you see his pallures beat good grasse, and his creable ground good coyne and that hee prospereth and goeth forwarde on it, & prouideh and maintaineth his wife and seruants honestly, then Inuidus alterius rebus macerest opinus: vicinumque pecus grandius vber habet.

When straight away pricks the Farmer forward, and he bids the Landlord far more than the poore man paies yearly for it, so that if he be a tenant at will, he puts him out to bag in the street: so when his lease comes out, he overloads him in the fine: and thus bloud-sucketh he the poore for his owne private profite. Besides, the base, chaffe, if he sees a forward yeare, and that coyne is like to be plentiful: then he murmureth against God, and sweareth, & protesteth he shall be vndone, respecting more the filling of his owne coffers by a dearth, then the profit of his country by a generall plenty. Beside sit it may please you, when new coyne comes into the market, who brings it in to relieve the State: not your mastership, but the poore husband-man that wants pence, for you keepe it to the backe end of the yeare, nay you haue your Warrers which haue coyne of two or three yeeres old, vpon hope still of a deere yeare, rather letting the wralescrag it, then the poore should haue it at any reasonable price. So that I conlude, you are a commoyant of the common wealth, and a wretch that limes of the spoile of the needie, and so I leaue you to iet with the Graiers: Harry for the Shepheard, vnlesse it be that he killeth a Lambe now and then, & saith the Fox stole him, I know little craft in his budget, there-

an vpstart Courtier.

Therefore let him be amongst the honest men of the Iurie.

Of all Clothbreeches (qd 3) you are very peremptorie in your challenges, what say you, here comes thre or foure citizens, will any of these serue turne: I cannot tell. qd he, till I know their names & conditions: with that I kept afoze the company, and inquired what they were, the eldest of them being a grane citizen, said he was a Grocer, the rest his good and honest neighbour, a Chandler, a Haberdasher, a Clothworker, and two strangers, one a Toller, the other a Dutchman. How like you of these qd. I to Velvet breeches, well inough qd. he for: I am a little acquainted with them: yet I know they saue me, because I haue on a sunday serue them all in their silkes. I marre qd. Clothbreeches, but they neuer get that haucerie with honestie, for the Clothworker his faults were laid open before, when we had the Diaper in question: and therefore let him be packing. For you Chandler, I like not of your tricks, you are too conuersant with the kitchen stuffe wines: you after your weeke or snuffe is stiffened, you put it in filthy drasse, and after giue him a coat of good tallow, which make the candles drop, & wast away, to the great hinderance of the poore workmen that watcheth in the night. Beside ye pinch in your weights, and haue false measures, and many other knaeries that I omit, but this be sure, you shall not meddle in my matter: neither the Haberdasher, for he trims vp old felts, and makes them very faire to the eye, and facetb and edgetb them neatly, and then he turnes them away to such a simple man as I am, and so abusetb vs with his colenage. Beside, you buy vnuind Tassata wherewith you line hats that wil straight asunder as soone as it comes to the heat of a mans head. To be brieue, I am not well skild in your knaeries. But indeed you are to fault for poore Clothbreeches, and therefore you shall be none of the Jury. Harry the Grocer seems an honest man, and I am content to admit him: onely take this as a caveat by the way, that you buy of the Carballers of spices, the refuse that they sitt from the merchant, & that you mixe againe and sel it to your customers. Besides, in your beaten spices, as in pepper you put in bay berries, & such dras and so wrong the poore, but these are sleight causes, & so I ouerpasse them, and vouchsafe you to be of the quest, But I pray you what bee these two honest men: quoth the Grocer, the one a Dutchman and a Shoemaker, the other a Frenchman & Gilliamer in saint Martins, and sel's Shirts, Bands, Bacelets, Jewels, and such pretty toys for

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A quippe for

Gentlewomen: whiche they be of beluet byercher acquaintance, bypart as well as bee: that haue brought with them pride and abuses into England, and first to the pillainer. What toies deuileth he to feede the humour of the bypart Gentleman withall, and offend Gentlewomen: such fannes, such ouches and byooches, such byacelets, such grannocies, such periwiggs, such pointings, such ruffes, and cuffes, as hath almost made England as full of proud fopperies, as Tyre and Sidon were. There is no sempster can make a band or a shirt so well as his wife: and why forsooth? because the filthy queene weares a crance, and is a frenchwoman forsooth, whereas our English women of the Exchange, are both better workewomen, and will asfoord a better penniworth. And so for the drunken Dutcheman this shoemaker, he and such as he is, abuseth the commonwealth, and the poore mechanicall men and handicrafts men in London: for our reu bypart foolles of beluet byerches fraternitie, like nothing but that the outlandish asse maketh. They like no shoe so well as the Dutcheman maketh, when our Englishmen passe them far: and as for chadlers, and all other occupations, they are wronged by the Dutch and french. And therfore sith the Commons hates them, they cannot be my friends, and therfore let them be launching to flushing, for they shall be no triers of my controuersie. Well, quoth I, now I suppose the Iurie is full, and we see no more comming, let vs call them, and see how many we haue. So they appeared to their names as followeth.

The names of the Iurie to be empannelled.

1 Knight,	13 Cutler.
2 Esquire.	14 Plaisterer.
3 Gentleman.	15 Sailer.
4 Priest.	16 Ropemaker.
5 Printer.	17 Smith.
6 Grocer.	18 Glouer.
7 Skinner.	19 Husbandman.
8 Dier.	20 Shepheard,
9 Pewterer.	21 Waterman.
10 Sadler.	22 Waterbearer.
11 Ioyner.	23 Bellowsmender.
12 Bricklaier	

What

an vpstart Courtier.

What is it not possible quoth I to haue one more to make by the foure and twentie: as I was thus speaking, I espied a farr off a certaine kind of an our two; ne Gentleman attired in velvet and sattin, but it was somewhat drooped and greasie, and bootes on his legges, whose soles waxed thin and seemed to complaine of their Maister, which creeping thrist vnder his feet, had brought them vnto that consumption, hee walked not as other men in the common beaten way, but came compassing Circum circa, as if we had bene Devils, and he would draw a circle about vs, and at euery third step he looked back, as if he were afraid of a Fly or Serpant.

After him followed two peart Apple-squires, the one had a spurry cloth golowen on, faced dolowen before with Gray Conny, & laid thicke on the sleeves w lace, which he quaintly bare vp to shewe his white taffata hose and blacke silke stockings a huge ruffe about his necke, & vnto in his great head like a wicker cage, a little hat with byms like the winges of a doublet, wherein he wore a Jewell of glasse, as broad as a chanccore scale, after him followed two boyes in cloakes like Butterflies, carrying one of them his costing sword of choller, the other his dancing rapier of delight. His Comrade that bare him company was a jolly light limbed Jack anapes, in a steeke of warched Taffata cut to the skin, with a cloake all to be oastred with colored lace: both he and my gowned Brother seemed by their apparell as if they had some soits to moult their boots. At length coming neare, I might discern the first to be a Poet the second a Playe, the third a Quittan, alias the Wither of a daunting Schole. Whom I maiore Poet quoth I, and welcome you friends also, though not so particularly known. So it is though none of you thre be common wealths men yet by your gent necessity we must be forced to employ you. We haue a Jury to be empannelled immediatly, which one of you thre must helpe to make vp, euen he which appoyntes maist the best man. They are all honest men and good fellows quoth Helmsheeds, therefore it is no great matter whether of them we chuse.

The Doctors doubt of that quoth Clothbreeches, for I am of a different opinion. He first whome by his careless shewely gate at first sight I imagined to be a Poet, is a waste good, and an vnhusky, that he is bozne to make the Taustner rich and himselfe a beggar. If he haue fortye poundes in his purse together he put it not to vsarie, neither buyes land nor Marchandise with it but a moneths com-
XUM

A quippe for

Wise of Weathers. Capon 6. Ten poundes a supper, why it is nothing
 if his plough goes, and his inkeboone bee cleare: Take one of them
 worth twentie thousand pounds and hang him. Hee is a King of his
 pleasure, and counts all other boyes and peasants, that though they
 haue money at command, yet know not like him how to beminere
 with it to any purpose as they should. But to speake plainly, I
 thinke him an honest man, if he would but liue, within his compasse
 and generally no mans foe but his owne. Therefore I hold him a
 man fit to ke of my Jury. May quoth Meluethbeeches, I haue more
 minde to these two, for this Poet is a proud fellow, that because hee
 hath a little wit in his budget, will contemne and mislike vs that are
 the common sort of Gentlemen, and thinke we are beholding to him
 if hee bee but better a faire looke vpon vs. The player and the other
 of the dauncing schoule are plain, honest, humble men, & so a penny,
 as an olde cast sute of apparell. Indeed quoth clothbeeches, you say
 truth, they are but two humble, for they be so lowly, that they be base
 minded, I meane not in their looks or apparell for so they bee. Pea-
 cocks and painted asses, but in their course of life: for they care not
 how they get costums: I meane how basely, so they haue them, & yet
 of the two I hold the Plaior the better Christian, although in his
 owne imagination, is full of selfe-liking and selfe loue, and is unfit
 to be of the Jury, though I hide and conceal his faults and seppre-
 ries, in that I haue bene werrie at his sports, onely this I must say,
 that such a plain country fellow as my selfe, they bring in as clowns
 and fooles to laugh at in their play, whereas they get by his ye of our
 almes the pouldrell of them all time. Well, to be briefe, let him sit
 to the stage, for hee shall be none of the Jury. And for you Painter
 of the dauncing schoule, you are a leader vnto all misrule, you
 teach Gentlemen to order their feete, when you bid them to mis-
 order their manners: you are a bad fellowe that stand vpon your
 trickes and capers, till you make young Gentlemen taper without
 their lands, why sit to be sit with you, you liue by your legges, as a
 Jugler by his hands. You are giuen ouer to the pompes and vanities
 of the world: and to be short you are a keeper of misrule, and a leuise
 fellow, and you shall be none of the quest. Well then quoth I you are
 both agreed that the Poet is he that must make by the 24. I haue an-
 swered both, he and none but hee. When I calling them altogether,
 bad the lay their hands on the booke, and first I read the first, and
 after

an vpstart Courtier.

after the rest as they followed in order, the J gave them their charge
It was:

Wth his full sir with the rest of the Jury, whome we haue solli-
cited of choice, of honest men, whose consciences wil beale bysightly in
this controuersie, you and the rest of your company are heere vppon
your oath & others to enquire whether cloath-breeches hath one dis-
seison vnto beluet-breeches yea or no, in or about Lontō, in putting
him out of frank tenement, wronging him of his right, and imbolli-
shing his credit: if you finde that cloath-breeches hath down' beluet-bree-
ches wrong, then let h^e in be set in his former estate & allowe him rea-
sonable damages. Vpon this they laide their hands on the booke and
were sworn, and departed to scrutinie of the matter by enquire a-
mongst themselves, not stirring out of our sight wth staying long,
but straight returned, and the Knight for them al as the for most, said
thus: So it is, that we haue with equitie and conscience considered
of this controuersie between beluet-breeches and cloath-breeches as
touching the p^{er}ogative of them both, which are most worthy to be
rightly s^{er}uic^{ed}, and haue seison in franke tenement here in Eng-
land, and we do find that Cloathbreeches is by many hundred yeres
more ancient, euer since Brute an inhabitant in this Iland, one that
hath bene in diebus illis a companion to kings, and equall with the
nobilitie, a friend to gentlemen and yeomen, and patron to the poore,
a true subiect, a good housekeeper, & generally as honest as he is auar-
cient. Wth here as Beluetbreeches is an vpstart come out of Italy, be-
got of pride, nursed by by selfe loue, and brought into this country by
his companion newfanglednes, that he is but of late time a rapser of
rents and an enemy to the common wealth, and one that is not any
way to be preferred in equity before cloathbreeches to haue done him
no wrong but that he hath lawfully claimed his title of franke tene-
ment, and in that we appoint him for euer to be resident. At this ver-
dict pronounced by the Knight, all the standers by, clapt their hands
and gaue a mightie shout, whereat J started and awaked, for

J was in a d^{re}ame and in my bed, and so rose vp, and
writ in a merry daine what you haue
heard.

FINIS.